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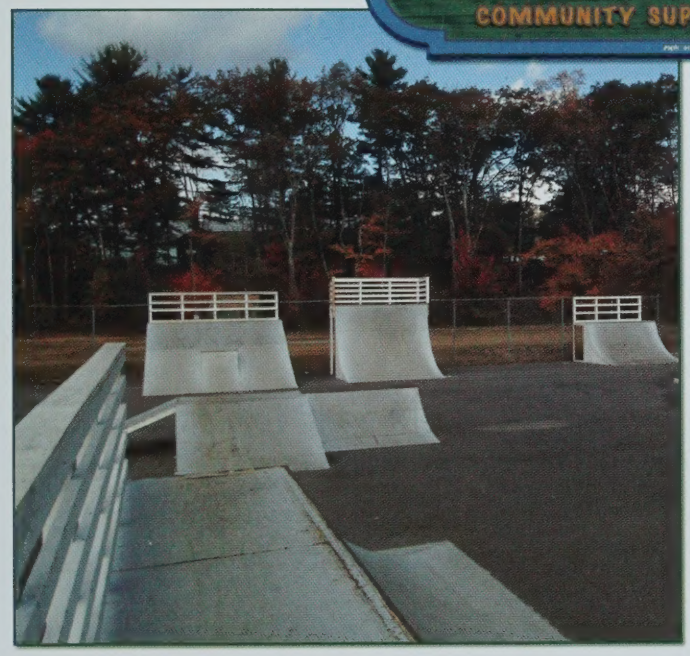
Annual Report 2003

Town of Meredith

GLENN HART
MEMORIAL SKATE PARK
COMMUNITY SUPPORTING YOUTH



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Glenn Hart Memorial Skate Park

On August 2, 2003 the Glenn Hart Memorial Skate Park (featured on front cover) was dedicated in honor of Glenn Hart, a caring man who gave his time and energy for the benefit of others. Through his many volunteer efforts with the Recreation Department and his generous support of the community as a local businessman, Glenn Hart led by example.

The community spirit exemplified by the efforts of Glenn Hart was also felt in the development of the skate park. Dedication day was the culmination of the efforts of many town officials, civic organizations, caring individuals, students, and parents.

In the summer of 2000, the need for a skate park in Meredith was first explored. The popularity of the sport was growing tremendously and this trend continues today. Students and parents were surveyed, their input was gathered, and research was performed regarding this exciting possibility. In June of 2001, Meredith Recreation Director Vint Choiniere, conducted a meeting with interested students and parents to initiate the process of building a skate park in Meredith. The challenges facing this energetic group were daunting in that we began with a $0 budget and no dedicated site for a skate park.

Several local merchants donated both funding and construction materials. Local contractors from Bob Myshrall Enterprises generously donated their time to build the first few modest elements. Town Manager, Peter Russell offered to re-pave the old tennis courts at Prescott Park and the first ever skate park in Meredith opened in the fall of 2001. Recreation Director Vint Choiniere and a group of dedicated parents provided supervision of the skate park.

The popularity of the skate park produced tremendous growth and support. The Glenn Hart Fund, originally established in 1997 to serve the youth of Meredith, was generously earmarked in 2001 to help construct the skate park.

The Glenn Hart Fund along with a very generous donation from Mr. Bill Andrews made the 2002 season a very exciting and productive one, as many exciting new elements were added to the skate park.

The Recreation Department works with various support groups to co-sponsor several exhibitions, competitions, instructional classes, and other special events. Participation at the skate park is very strong and all feedback thus far has been very positive.

We are all very proud of our skate park and the effort put forth by so many dedicated individuals and organizations that worked together to help make a dream become a reality.

A Special Thanks to Our Skate Park Contributors

Big Lake Home & Lumber
Lakes Region Cyclery
E.M. Heath Inc.
Wickes Lumber
Hunter and Secord Builders
Omni Signs
Pepsi Bottling Group of Manchester
Town of Meredith Board of Selectmen
Kathie and Town Thorndike
Myshrall Enterprises
LDR Productions
Home Depot of Tilton
Meredith Village Savings Bank
William Andrews
Cohen Steel Supply
Nu Wave Sports
Meredith Aubuchon Hardware
Meredith Rotary Club
Mountain Sports
Glenn Hart Fund
Public Works Department
Peter Russell, Town Manager

To see the smiles on the faces of the many youngsters who enjoy the skate park each day is to understand the meaning of community. In their smiles the spirit of Glenn Hart's devotion to his family and community lives on at the Glenn Hart Memorial Skate Park.

Respectfully submitted by:

Vint Choiniere, Parks and Recreation Director

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2003

THE TOWN OF
MEREDITH
NEW HAMPSHIRE

2003

ANNUAL REPORT

for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

TOWN REPORT DEDICATION

William P. Hamblet Sr.
1938 - 2003

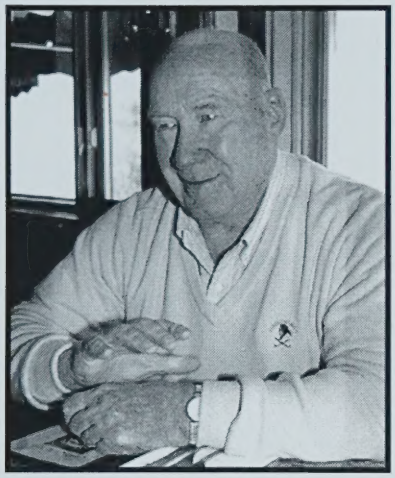
William Hamblet was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and grew up in Andover, Massachusetts. He graduated from New Hampton School and from East Coast Aero Tech. He resided in Salem, New Hampshire, for eight years and also in Windham for thirteen. He has been a Meredith resident for the past eighteen years.

He worked as the President and General Manager of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Salem for twenty years. He owned and operated Y-Landing Marine Services in Meredith for over twenty years.

Bill served on the Board of Directors of Dover, Salem, Henderson and Weldon Coca-Cola Bottling Companies.

As Deputy Fire Warden for the Meredith Fire Department, he maintained the fire boat, and when the fire alarm sounded, he was the one to respond and maneuver the vessel to the location of the accident.

IN SPECIAL MEMORIAM



Leo Kershaw

Leo Kershaw was born in Leominster, Mass., on October 3, 1924. Leo grew up in Leominster and graduated from Leominster High School and then from Dean Academy in Franklin, Mass., and Brown University in R.I.

He was a resident of Meredith since 1964 and owned and published the Meredith News, until his retirement in 1993.

Leo was a member and past president of the Meredith Rotary Club, past chairman of the Meredith Planning Board and Lakes Region Planning Commission, was a member of the Board of Directors of the Meredith Visiting Nurses Association, and the Waukewan Golf Club in Center Harbor. He was a member and first assistant chief of the Meredith Volunteer Fire Department for many years.

Marion M. Chase

Marion M. Chase was born in Littleton on January 14, 1914. She grew up in Littleton and graduated from Littleton High School.

She was a Meredith resident for over sixty years. In 1936, she was married to the late Carl Chase Sr. and together they began a life long career owning various businesses in the town. The Meredith Bakery, Meredith Diner, and Chase's Country Townhouse Restaurant, as well as the Wolfeboro and North Conway Diners. After her husband Carl, died in 1970, Marion continued to operate the Chase's Country Townhouse Restaurant.

Marion was a member of the First Congregational Church in Meredith, the Women's Fellowship, member and past regent of the Mary Butler Chapter of the Daughter's of the American Revolution, Meredith and past state regent of the DAR, the NH Dames of the Court of Honor, a member and past president of the Women's Progress Club.

Lloyd F. Sprague

Lloyd F. Sprague was born in Meredith on October 24. He graduated from Meredith High School and Keene State College with a degree in education.

He taught school and was Head of the Mathematics Department. He and his wife, Rickie, both taught school and were able to come to Meredith for the summers. Even though Lloyd found many other states to live in he always came back to his hometown of Meredith.

Lloyd returned to Meredith to live year round after his retirement. He was a member of the American Legion. A volunteer at the Lakes Region General Hospital for seventeen years. The Meredith Chamber of Commerce and the Meredith Historical Society for several years. He spent many years substitute teaching at Inter-Lakes, enjoying his passion to help educate our youth.

IN APPRECIATION FOR DEDICATED SERVICE

Peter G. Russell
Former Town Manager

Peter Russell became Meredith Town Manager in 1989, and has seen the Town through a myriad of changes in the fourteen years he has been here.

He has been instrumental in bringing many projects to fruition.

He spearheaded the effort to extend public water to Meredith Center, solving a major public health issue while improving Meredith's infrastructure at minimal cost to the Town.

He has made numerous facility improvements including the Meredith Center Fire Station, the Meredith Village Cemetery facility building, and the Community Park/Latchkey building with public restrooms on Main Street.

He led the reestablishment of scenic views along Parade Road and the implementation of a multi-use forest management plan at Waukewan Highlands Park, completion of the LCIP acquisition of Moulton Farm conservation easement, and establishing public access to Lake Waukewan.

Peter has made great progress in developing public/private sector partnerships, which have led to the successful redevelopment and enhancement of Meredith Village.

IN APPRECIATION FOR DEDICATED SERVICE

Charles G. Palm
Interim Town Manager

Chuck Palm became Interim Town Manager in 2003. Not only did he perform the duties of Interim Town Manager he is also our dedicated Fire Chief. As you can imagine it takes an extremely organized and motivated individual to achieve the high standards of organization for the Town of Meredith. Chuck has the work ethic and knowledge that it took to perform his difficult duties with ease.

A sincere thank-you from the Town of Meredith's Management Team, Selectmen and employees. And on behalf of the citizens of Meredith you are greatly appreciated for all your efforts.

We would like to send special thanks out to your family members who gave you the support during this sixth month period when you were rarely ever home. Thank you.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

James F. Hughes, Chairman, 2004

Frank S. Michel, 2005

Robert C. Flanders, 2006

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Moderator, 2004	Ralph Losee
Town Clerk, 2005	Pauline L. Jones
Treasurer, 2005	Dennis A. Lamper

TOWN DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

Town Manager & Tax Collector (retired 6-03)	Peter G. Russell
Interim Town Manager & Tax Collector	Charles G. Palm
Finance Director & General Assistance Director	Brenda L. Vittner
Town Planner	John C. Edgar, AICP
Code Administrator	William M. Edney
Public Works Director	Michael Faller
Assistant Public Works Director	Allan Bolduc
Water & Sewer Superintendent	Robert Hill
Assessor	Lena Watson Bolton
Parks & Recreation Director	Vint M. Choiniere, CPRP
Program Director	Rick Desharnais
Librarian	Lydia Torr
Deputy Tax Collector	Valerie "Vikki" Fogg
Deputy Town Clerk	Sheila M. Vachon
IT/GIS	Robin McCann

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT

Stephen H. Nedeau, 2004, Meredith
David M. Lawton, 2004, Meredith
Carl Johnson Sr., 2004, Senator

POLICE DEPARTMENT

John P. Curran, Chief

Kevin Morrow, Lieutenant
Keith True, Sergeant
Glenn Rollins, Sergeant
Deborah Lewis, Patrolman
Robert Chance III, Patrolman
Michael Harper, Patrolman
Timothy Britt, Patrolman
John Eichhorn, Patrolman
Gregory Mangers, Patrolman
James Brunt, Patrolman
Thomas Dawson, Patrolman
Bart Merrill, School Resource Officer
Christine Fecteau, Administrative Assistant

Dispatchers: Robert Nichols, Jane MacFadzen, Tonia Sorell

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Charles G. Palm, Chief
Andre Kloetz, Assistant Chief
Tom Joslin, Assistant Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN
Charles G. Palm

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR
Steven R. Bennett

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Positions vacant, contact Director, Vint Choiniere at 279-4538, if you are interested.

TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS
Janice A. Phillips, 2004
Miller C. Lovett, 2006
Louann Breen, 2004

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST
Deborah K. McNeish, Chairman, 2008
Lucienne M. Boulanger, 2004
Brenda L. Thibeault, 2006

LIBRARY TRUSTEES
Paul Eldridge, Chairman, 2006
Laurie A. Brothers, 2005
Jay Plyler, 2004
Delphine Clough, 2004
Linda Matson, 2005
Duncan McNeish, 2006
Kathleen S. Peverly, 2006

PLANNING BOARD
Herb Vadney, Chairman, 2004
Joseph Nardone, 2005
William Finer, 2005
Roger Sorell, 2006
William Bayard, 2006
Pam Bliss, 2005
Robert Flanders, Selectmen's Representative
Alternates: James Hughes & Frank Michel, Selectmen 2004

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
John Mack, Chairman, 2005
Fred Hawkins, 2004
Kenneth Haley, 2006
Jack Dever, 2006
Diane Hommel, 2006
Alternates: Janice Joslin, 2006

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Philip Mercer, Chairman, 2005
John Sherman, Vice Chairman, 2006
Jacquie Colburn, 2006
Robert LeCount, 2004
Peter Miller, 2005
Pauli Novicki, 2004
Barbara Smyth, 2004
Alternates:
Ronald Kiesel, 2006
John Robinson, 2006
Paul Del Frari, 2006
Ralph Pisapia, 2006
Stacey Herbold, 2006

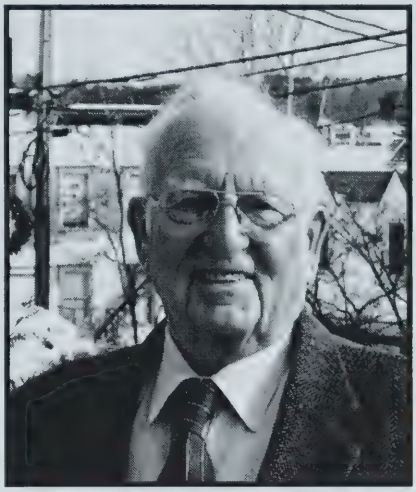
LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVES
William Bayard, 2005
Herb Vadney, 2005

Meredith Selectmen from 1848 to Present

Allen, Stuart	1961 - 1969
Ambrose, Robert	1989 - 1991
Atteberry, Roy L.	1972 - 1977
Baker, Norman	1978 -1980
Ballard, Wilbur	1909 - 1910
Barron, John	1851
Bickford, Elezer	1978 - 1979
Bickford, Roy	1923 - 1931
Blaisdell, Philip	1872 - 1873
Blake, Ebenezer T.	1869 - 1870
Boothby, Henry	1945 - 1959
Boynton, Ira	1882
Brown, William	1887 - 1888
Carter, Sherman	1956 - 1958
Chase, Carl A.	1943 - 1944
Clark, Aaron	1935 - 1947
Clark, Rufus	1869 - 1871
Colby, Leroy	1919 - 1920
Cox, Edwin	1886 - 1888, 1893 - 1899
Davis, L.D.	1854
Doe, Augustus	1852
Eastman, Abel	1848
Eastman, John	1878, 1887 - 1889
Ela, Joseph	1856
Ellsworth, Perry	1889 - 1890
Estes, James	1915 - 1917
Felker, Andrew	1898 - 1899
Flanders, Robert	2000 - 2003
French, Hiram	1853
French, Marshall	1969 - 1971
Gale, Daniel	1851
Gilman, George	1856 - 1857
Grant, Taylor	1852 - 1853
Green, Robert	1936 - 1939
Hamlin, Andrew	1992
Hayes, Christine	1982 - 1987
Heald, Bruce	1971 - 1975
Heinz, Richard	1958 - 1960
Higgins, Lewis	1911 - 1915
Hodsdon, Marshall	1939 - 1957
Holland, Thomas	1848
Hoyt, Charles	1866
Hoyt, George	1873
Hughes, James	1987 - 1992, 1994 - 2003
Lang, Joseph	1891 - 1892
Lawrence, Samuel	1856
Leavitt, Arthur	1874 -1875, 1880 - 1882, 1885, 1893 - 1896
Leavitt, Warren	1866
Lessard, Paul	1993 - 1998
Lossee, Ralph	1993
Lovejoy, David	1857
Martin, Norman	1950 - 1955
Michel, Frank	2002 - 2003
Mongo, Edith	1991 - 1996
Moses, Thaddeus	1870 - 1871
Moulton, Austin	1891 - 1892, 1927 - 1932
Moulton, James	1921 - 1923
Neal, Charles	1874 - 1875, 1878 - 1879
Neal, Joseph	1852
Neal, William	1885 - 1886, 1897 - 1898, 1908 - 1914, 1934 - 1935, 1942
Nedeau, Stephen	1980 - 1985, 1999 - 2001
Ordway, Bert	1904 - 1905
Edmund, Page	1921 - 1922
Parker, Charles	1848
Pease, Loring	1916, 1918
Piper, Gideon	1851, 1854
Piper, Ralph	1919 - 1924, 1933 - 1938
Plancon, C.K.	1948 - 1949
Plummer, Harry E.	1940 - 1941
Plummer, Nathan	1902 - 1903
Prescott, Charles	1869
Prescott, Frank	1924 - 1926
Prescott, Joseph	1883 - 1884
Prescott, Josiah	1871 - 1872
Rhodes, Robert	1960 - 1968
Roberts, Charles N.	1918, 1962 - 1964
Roberts, Oren S.	1883 - 1884
Robertson, Mary L. K.	1959 - 1961
Robinson, Eben'r	1857
Sanborn, George	1900 - 1904, 1906 - 1907, 1909 - 1910, 1925 - 1933
Sanderson, Bruce	1965 - 1970
Sibley, George	1854
Smith, Curtis F.	1896 - 1897
Smith, Fred	1900 - 1907, 1916 -1917, 1919 - 1920
Smith, George F.	1908
Smith, John	1864
Smith, Joseph Jr.	1893 - 1894, 1908
Smith, William S.	1881 - 1886, 1890 -1892
Sprague, Brad	1970 - 1975
Stevens, Eben'r	1864
Sticht, David	1988 - 1990
Swain, Hosea S.	1872 - 1875
Swain, Larry	1981 - 1986
Towle, Levi	1866
True, Noah	1864
Waldron, James	1976
Webster, John	1879 - 1880, 1895, 1900 - 1901
Whitcher, Chris	1997 - 1999
Wiggin, Daniel	1853
Wiggin, Edward	1889 - 1890
Wiggin, Hollis	1911 - 1915, 1918
Wiggin, John	1899, 1905 - 1907
Williams, Adrian	1947
Wyatt, Harold	1976 - 1981

Report from the Board of Selectmen

James F. Hughes, Chairman
Frank S. Michel and Robert C. Flanders - Board of Selectmen



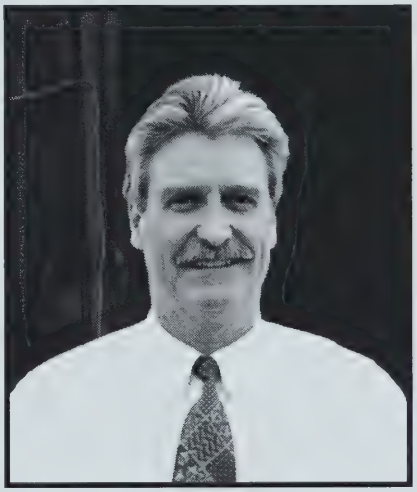
James F. Hughes

To Our Citizens of Meredith:

We are pleased to report to the community that the Town continues to maintain its excellent financial condition. Our tax base, both commercial and residential, continues to grow. This, along with the Town's strong financial planning through the expendable trusts for future large expenditures and the strong Capital Improvement Program keeps Meredith as one of the most desirable communities in the state.

We will highlight some of the notable activities during the year as well as provide some of the projected issues during 2004.

This was a year of transition and one that many of our valued employees assisted greatly to keep our operations efficient and moving forward. We thank Peter G. Russell, Town Manager for his many years of service to the community. Our Interim Town Manager, Chuck Palm, kept things moving forward with the help of John Edgar and Brenda Vittner. A special thanks to Chuck and others who kept the town running smoothly during the transition.

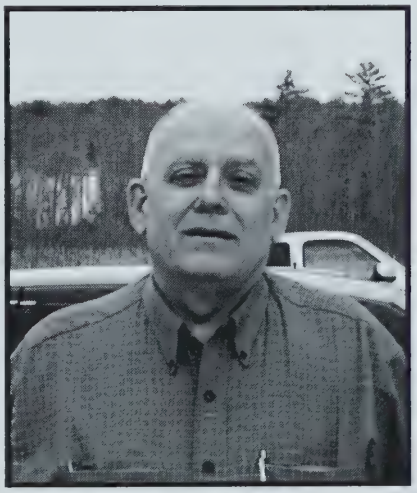


Frank S. Michel

Many members of the community along with town staff assisted the Selectmen with a selection process for a new Town Manager. Carol Granfield, a seasoned manager was selected, and we welcome her and look forward to working with her during the coming years.

Prescott Park was a significant highlight during the year. Many are now able to enjoy more ball fields, tennis courts and yes, new bathrooms at the new fields.

The Community Center Search Committee has been working all year and due to some issues with Prescott Park had to change its course of action to an adjacent location. This change was actually a positive one that will provide more space and no disruption to the current fields or skate park. A conceptual of the building is in progress.



Robert C. Flanders

We determined that several of our public facilities may be at or above their respective capacities and therefore we appointed a Space Needs Committee. This group is charged with conducting a comprehensive evaluation of specific facility needs and shall make recommendations to the Board. This will be conducted in 2004 and the results may impact our Capital Improvement Program, Goals and building priorities.

Report from the Board of Selectmen continued

2003 saw the rejuvenation of the Main Street Program in Meredith. With the enthusiastic support of the business community, a new name (Greater Meredith Program) and expanded focus have been established. We look forward to a close working relationship with newly appointed Executive Director Jeanie Forrester and the Board of Directors to enhance the vitality of our community.

You may notice that the Town Report has a new look. With the development of in-house Information Technology capabilities, we now have the ability to integrate pictures and graphics without incurring additional cost to the document production. This report will also be available on the Town website (www.meredithnh.org) and in CD format, which will not only make it more easily accessible, but also a cost savings to our taxpayers.

Recognizing there is always room for improvement regarding what we do and how we do it; your thoughts and suggestions are welcome. We continuously seek to improve how we inform our residents and taxpayers about local issues and opportunities to become involved. There are any number of ways that one can reach us. Our meeting agendas specifically provide opportunities for residents and visitors to comment. More informally, you can contact the Selectmen's Office at Town Hall (279-4538) to schedule an appointment with a member of the Board or the Town Manager. Those with internet access can also contact Town Manager Carol Granfield via email (CGranfield@meredithnh.org).

We look forward to a prosperous 2004 with many challenges in the area of transportation, development and fiscal responsibility. We express our appreciation to all of our Town Employees for their hard, dedicated work, as well as the many hours our talented volunteers donate to the Town while serving in various capacities on boards and committees.

Thank you for your continued support and we encourage you to enjoy our wonderful Town.

Town Managers from 1948 through 2003

Brown, Russell M.	1975 - 1976
Finch, Ralph B. Sr.	1974
Gray, Albert Jr.	1948, 1949
Hanlon, David P.	1978
Hardy, Earle D.	1968 - 1973
Jutton, Donald R.	1977 - 1978
Libby, Ernest L.	1953 - 1954
Meserve, Eric S.	1985 - 1988
Palm Charles G.	7/2003 to 12/2003
Rhodes, Robert W.	1950 - 1952
Russell, Peter G.	1989 to 6/2003
Schuette, Edward L.	1979 - 1984
Scribner, Archer	1961 - 1967
Sullivan, C. David	1955 - 1959

Report from the Town Manager

Charles G. Palm, Interim Town Manager

To My Fellow Citizens,

As we close another year in the history of our great Town and begin a new one, it is a time that we can all look back and review the changes that will impact us both today and into the future. Early in the year, Peter Russell, our Town Manager of many years, announced his retirement. We all owe a debt of gratitude to Peter for his guidance and devotion to the Town over these past many years. We all undoubtedly agree that balancing the need to keep the "Village" concept and dealing with growth requires a great deal of foresight and the need to make hard decisions. Certainly many of us would probably prefer that change in our community did not occur; however, at the same time we also realize that changes are necessary so as to provide for a community where our children and their children will be desirous of living.

During the past year, several infrastructure projects were completed while others were moved forward. The water, sewer and road project on Plymouth Street and Route 3 North was finally completed, yes, the State still has the Hawkins Brook crossing to perform, but the Town's portion is now complete. The new athletic fields were completed at Prescott Park and were put into service for the soccer season this past fall. While many of us were not happy with the parking, we need to remind ourselves that this is again an example of the need to balance our desires and our resources. The next phase of the Prescott Park area development will be brought forward at this year's Town meeting, where we will deliberate over the recommendations of the Community Center Research Committee and the associated complications of where to put the new center, its potential size and uses, wetlands issues, the impact on our tax rate and many other very important considerations. Lastly, as this report is being prepared, the shorefront walkway and boardwalk reconstruction is well underway. When complete, this will certainly add to the beauty of the Meredith lakefront.

Other important happenings impacting the Town included the opening of the new Catholic church, the new Meredith Harley-Davidson complex, the substantial addition to Forrest View Manor, the ongoing construction of the Meredith Bay Village retirement community, redevelopment of the former Catholic church into the Inn at Church Landing, just to name a few. During the ensuing year we will see other changes, some we will like, some we may not care for; however, hopefully, all of which will not detract from what we have come to enjoy – the village character of Meredith. The interesting thing to keep in mind, change does not just happen, it takes people, most of whom are volunteers, who are willing to step forward and serve on the many boards and committees in the Town that oversee the planning and direction of these changes.

In conclusion, I would certainly like to express my sincere gratitude for working with me as your Interim Town Manager and please join with me in welcoming our new Town Manager, Carol Granfield and her family to our wonderful community. I am quite certain that she would appreciate hearing from you and certainly would not turn down an offer from anyone willing to serve on one of our many boards or committees that will guide the future of our great Town. When you hear of an opening, please step forward, your involvement and input will help set the direction of the future. Thank you and have a great year.

Record of 2003 Meredith Town Meeting Minutes

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at St. Charles Auditorium, 281 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next, March 11, 2003, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM, Wednesday, March 12, 2003, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

One (1) Selectman for three (3) years

Charles R. Braxton	142
Robert C.Flanders	425
Write-in:	
Steve Merrill	31

One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for three (3) years

Write-in:	
Miller Lovett	16
Joe Tivnan	11

Three (3) Library Trustees for three (3) years

Paul Eldridge	453
J.Duncan McNeish	421
Kathleen Peverly	439
Irene D.Santaniello	276

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with Wireless Telecommunication Facilities?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance requires annual safety and maintenance inspections of towers. The proposed amendment would require safety and maintenance inspections be conducted at a minimum, once every five years in accordance with industry standards.

YES 548 NO 155

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with the processing of wetland-related applications for Special Exception?

Purpose of the Amendment: The current ordinance requires that applications for Special Exception be referred to the Conservation Commission at least 30 days prior to the Zoning Board of Adjustment's public hearing on the application. The result has been needless delays in the processing of many applications. The proposed amendment would: (1) eliminate the mandatory 30-day referral period; (2) preserve the Conservation Commission's opportunity to comment on each application; and (3) require the Conservation Commission to provide its written comments and/or recommendations within 30 days of the receipt of an application for Special Exception.

YES 484 NO 125

ARTICLE 4

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with fence heights?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment increases the maximum allowable fence height for fences installed within lot line setbacks from (five) feet to (six) feet.

YES 496 NO 122

ARTICLE 5

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with the use of Temporary Structures?

Purpose of the Amendment: The proposed amendment (1) clarifies that Temporary Structures may be occupied on a residential building site during the period that the construction of a Primary Structure is in progress; and (2) provides that a Special Permit shall be required for any temporary unapproved use or activity on any residential property including the use of Temporary Structures.

YES 467 NO 141

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

Moderator Losee welcomed all and gave the results of the Ballot Articles voted on March 11th. Selectman Robert Flanders, Trustee of the Trust Funds, write-in candidate Miller Lovett, who has until the 14th to accept or decline the nomination, as the second place nomination, Joseph Tivnan, will have to be notified. Library Trustees: Paul Eldridge, Duncan McNeish and Kathleen Peverly. All four Zoning Articles passed with a large majority.

We have received a request to have a secret ballot on Article #9.

Moderator Losee then introduced the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Town Clerk and Finance Director.

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Health Care for New Hampshire Resolution. **Whereas,** New Hampshire residents pay the 12th highest cost of insurance in the country; and **Whereas**, the cost of health insurance premiums for families has increased by 45% over the past three years; and **Whereas**, 100,000 New Hampshire residents have no health coverage and 77% of them have a full-time worker at home; and Whereas, due to these rising costs almost half of New Hampshire's small business cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved that we, the citizens of Meredith, New Hampshire, call on our elected officials from all levels of government, and those seeking office, to work with consumers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed and underinsured and small business owners has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and
- That those efforts help control the skyrocketing cost of health care.

(Request for article petitioned by 25 or more legal voters.)
(This resolution is non-binding and represents no fiscal impact)

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and seconded by Selectman Michel that the Town Adopt Article 6 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes stated that this petitioned Article is requesting groups to contact their elected officials concerning the Health Care dilemma. Supporting this Article doesn't have any fiscal impact but hopefully it will start a dialogue. New Hampshire has been in the forefront in making Health Insurance available, but there is a difference between being available and being affordable and this is what this resolution is asking our Representatives in the General Court and Congress to think about.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote and Article 6 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to send the following resolution to the New Hampshire General Court:

Resolved, in its first two years of operation, the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) has helped communities throughout New Hampshire to preserve their natural, cultural and historic resources and, therefore, the State of New Hampshire should maintain funding for LCHIP in its next biennial budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Michel and seconded by Selectman Flanders, that the Town Adopt Article 7 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Michel spoke to the Article stating that the State's last biennium budget included 6 million dollars for the LCHIP Program and Governor Benson is seeking to reduce that to 4 million dollars. Meredith has been a recipient from the LCHIP Program of a $275,000.00 grant towards the purchase of the development rights for Longridge Farm.

Richard Juve asked if there is a cost associated with this Warrant Article and Selectman Michel stated no, there would be no cost.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote and Article 7 Passed in the majority.

At this time Senator Carl Johnson read and presented a Resolution to John Hodsdon for his long time involvement in dealing with issues that make a difference to the environment in our community. Senator Johnson also thanked Town Manager Peter Russell for his exemplary leadership over the years.

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue a portion of an old Class VI highway leading Easterly from Route 106 (Parade Road) toward Route 3 South referred to as Wadleigh Road, so called as the highway passes through the Zela Bucklin Grandchildren Trust property, Tax Map S-20 Lot 3, subject to a new layout and Selectmen's acceptance of this alternative layout through said property. Said new layout Road to be constructed as a potential through road as part of the subdivision development of the so-called Trust property.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and seconded by Selectman Hughes, that the Town Adopt Article 8 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders referred to the sketch in the Town Meeting Handout. The Town is not abandoning a class VI road, the Article is for house keeping purposes, defining layouts and obtaining benefits to the Town through the building of a new road to Town standards. There will be no direct cost

to the Town and the developer will assume cost for connection and compliance. John Hodsdon spoke to the Article explaining the location of Wadleigh Road.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote and Article 8 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Public Safety Building Expendable Trust for the purpose of purchasing land and building a public safety building within the Town of Meredith and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000) toward this purpose and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Selectman Hughes and seconded by Selectman Michel, that the Town Adopt Article 9 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes stated that this Article is to establish an Expendable Trust Fund for a Public Safety Building. This would house both the Police and Fire Departments. It would allow the Town to begin to set aside funds for the purchase of the land to support the public and the project. During the CIP process, the Fire Department volunteered to lower the amount to be deposited in the vehicle replacement trust for 2003 and defer the purchase of the next truck by one year to accommodate and set aside funds for the Public Safety Building. If land was found, a deposit could be made on the land and it could be held until the next Town Meeting or a Special Town Meeting.

Bob Ambrose spoke against the Article and asked if we really want to tie up this money. Is this what the Towns people really want? The Community Center should take precedent.

At this time Fire Chief Palm and Police Chief Curran spoke at great length on the needs of our citizens, in the future, for this facility and the need to pass this Article.

Bob Ambrose indicated that this is not a debate; we should use this money for the Community Center, not for something that might come up. Mark Flanders asked what would happen to the old building? Selectman Flanders replied that there would be a space needs committee analysis later on concerning the buildings and further, this will not delay the Community Center.

Mark Flanders and Pam Bliss spoke in favor of the Article. Peter Brothers spoke at great length in favor of the Article emphasizing what Chief Palm and Chief Curran had spoken of earlier. Peter Russell pointed out that this is a planning tool and we need to have funds if land becomes available because land moves quickly. David Sticht spoke against the Article stating that when the committee was set up to study this, it included the Police and Fire Department and it should have included the public also. David Sticht continued speaking about the Meredith Center Fire Station and the 3-mile radius and perhaps a need for a sub-station out on the Neck Rd. Dave then made an Amendment to Article 9. "Amend Article #9, to raise and expend up to $10,000.00, to study the need for a life safety building." Jurgen Niffka seconded

the Amendment. Selectman Hughes asked if the Amendment required a written ballot and Dave Sticht replied no. Moderator Losee stated that the original Article would be a secret ballot, not the amendment.

Selectman Flanders spoke in favor of CIP's advanced planning since 2002 and CIP shouldn't be held accountable for someone's inability to know what's going on. Dave Sticht spoke again about the growth in town and the impact. Herb Vadney spoke in favor of the amendment stating that they haven't thought through the combining of the Fire and Police departments. Alex Levy stated that he would die before the building is built but will be paying for it now. He also asked why the present Police building is built on pilings. Chief Curran stated that you hired us to be the experts and citizens did the Police Station. Gabrielle Niffka agreed with Chief Curran, praising the Police and Fire Departments for their help, however she also agreed with Dave Sticht. She further stated that she agrees that we need the facility but feels there should be more planning and have we looked into Town owned property? Selectman Flanders addressed the question about Town property and stated that none is suitable or close enough to town. Mrs. Niffka asked about a piece of land on Reservoir Rd. Selectman Flanders answered that the piece up by the reservoir would be far enough out of town so that this ISO rating would be lost by a lot of the commercial district. There was further discussion of the 3-mile radius and the impact of businesses in Town. Richard Juve asked when the Community Center would be started and completed? Selectman Michel stated that in Article 10, another $150,000.00 would be added to the Community Center Fund; bringing the total to approximately $525,000.00. The Community Center Search Committee has come up with the presentation, which is on display out front, and now we must go forward into Phase II to see how much it will cost for those plans. Jack Carty then spoke against the amendment stating that the Police Station has seen better days and the Police building is not sufficient for a town of our size and responsibilities and hopes that we defeat this amendment. Karen Sticht spoke in favor of the amendment and if it has been studied and planned, then she would be in favor of the funding. Brian Hall asked if the Fire Department deferred funds this year to be put into this fund, what about next year, will we defer something again or are we going to end up with the $250,000. because we have already started that? Selectman Flanders stated that in the CIP process, there is a tag at $2.50 on the tax rate as the total amount of money used on CIP projects in any one year. Any recommendation that would come forward would fall within that range. Selectman Flanders then spoke at great length about the CIP process. Mark Flanders praised the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Selectmen and the CIP Committee for their hard work and then moved the question.

Hand vote on the Amendment, " To raise and expend up to $10,000.00 to study the need for a Life Safety Building." Amendment was defeated.

Katherine McGuigan spoke in favor of the original Article 9, stating that there is a need for this building. Laurie Brothers moved Article 9.

By secret ballot Article 9 Passed in the majority. YES 146 NO 46

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000) to be added to the Community Center Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Michel and Seconded by Selectman Flanders, that the Town Adopt Article 10 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Michel explained that this Article is to set aside funds for the Community Center. This is the 4th year asking for $150,000.00 in this fund then there will be $525,000.00 in this fund. We are in Phase II of this project, hiring consultants to cost out the facility.

Karen Sticht asked if and when we actually build, would this money be in addition to the other CIP Articles? Selectman Flanders stated, as he explained earlier about the CIP process, that would include any Warrant Article, included in the rate that he talked about. Rudy Koczera asked if the CIP $2.50 cost is included in the Municipal Budget's $6.00 tax rate? Selectman Flanders stated yes, then asked Finance Director Brenda Vittner if he was mistaken, she replied," Yes." Brenda explained that when we do the CIP committee, we take into account both the School and Town's budget's, so if you add the tax rate for the Town and the tax rate for the School together, minus the $2.50. That's where it comes up. The $2.50 is used for both budgets. Peter Russell further emphasized that it is included in the tax rate. Mr. Koczera asked if an Article is not passed, would that decrease the operating budget? Selectman Hughes stated yes, it is subtracted from the operational budget.

Alex levy then spoke on the minimal impact on the budget. Marie Valliere spoke in favor of the Article. Dan Cornelissen spoke in favor of the Article and made an Amendment to Article 10 to appropriate the sum of $700,000.00. There was no second.

Moderator Losee then asked for the vote on the original Article. Article 10 Passed in the majority.

Moderator Losee then gave the results of Article 9. YES 146, NO 46 Article 9 Passed.

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.00) to be added to the Property Assessment Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend

Funding is already appropriated with in the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Hughes, that the Town Adopt Article 11 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders spoke about the Article stating that due to the statewide property tax debate all towns and cities within New Hampshire must have certified assessments and 2003 is Meredith's year to be re-certified. The Town is estimating a cost of approximately $350,000.00 to review, update and re-evaluate properties within Meredith to continue the on-going assessment process. The principal and interest balance as of Dec.31 2002, in this account is $100,008.00. By setting aside funds, the Town does not incur additional interest payments on borrowed money for the project.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 11 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) to be added to the Open Space/Conservation Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Michel, that the Town Adopt Article 12 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes stated that the purpose of the Article is to continue to allow the Conservation Commission of Meredith to maintain open space through the management, purchase or donation of land or easements within the Town. The Town of Meredith currently sets aside the first $10,000.00 from current use penalty assessments for the Conservation Open Space Program. The Conservation Commission has had a number of opportunities during 2002 to expand the available open space in Meredith. The projects include the Hamlin property, Eames property and Longridge Farms. The Leighton and Piscapo properties were donated to the Conservation Commission in 2002. This is the 3rd year of this expendable trust. Principal and interest available as of 12/31/2002, is $50,929.00.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee asked for the vote and Article 12 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) to be added to the Boardwalk Improvements Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Michel and Seconded by Selectman Flanders, that the Town Adopt Article 13 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Michel stated that is the third and final year for this appropriation. The estimate to do the reconstruction is $150,000.00 and this is the boardwalk between the boat ramp and the telephone booth. If this is granted it will more than likely happen later this year.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee asked for the vote. Article 13 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) to be added to the Cygnet Shores Pump Station Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Hughes, that the Town Adopt Article 14 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders explained that the Cygnet Shores Pump Station located just off Pleasant St. is scheduled for repair or replacement in 2004 or 2005. This pump station currently services Cygnet Shores and Wagon Wheel Trail. This is the 2nd year of this expendable trust. The principal and interest available as of Dec.31, 2002 is $50,004.00.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee asked for the vote. Article 14 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Michel, that the Town Adopt Article 15 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes stated that the purpose of this Article is to continue to set aside funds to replace fire and rescue equipment. The next planned equipment purchase is during 2005. The current plan is to replace the oldest pumper truck, which is a 1976, with an Ariel truck with an estimated cost of $700,000.00. Principal and interest available as of 12/31/2002 is $334,024.00.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 15 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) to be added to the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Michel and Seconded by Selectman Flanders, that the Town Adopt Article 16 as

Proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Michel explained the purpose of the Article is to continue to add to the trust fund and this is the 8th year. Principal and interest as of 12/31/02 is $391,571.00. Any future Town Meetings would consider any proposed plans for the Municipal Office facilities.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee asked for the vote. Article 16 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) to be added to the Downtown Parking Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Hughes, that the Town Adopt Article 17 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders explained the purpose of this Article is to set aside funds to purchase or renovate areas for down town parking. Principal and interest balance as of 12/31/02 is $420,053.00. This is the 5th year the Town has appropriated funds to this expendable trust.

Robin Davis stated that now it's about $6,400.00 per parking space and if we continue it will be about $7,600.00 per parking space. He stated we have all these projects in town and he doesn't know where all the lands going to come from. Steve Blake asked for more explanation on the $420,053.00 for the parking fund and why we are accumulating this money for that. Peter Russell responded by recalling five years ago when we had stared this fund with the possibility of the Town buying the Calvary Bible Church property. They have about 65 spaces that are currently being used by our downtown merchants and employees. Our concern was that if someone else purchased that property, we would be hurting for the

businesses down town. At this time the Church is reviewing their options and have purchased land out on Rte.25 and they are currently re-assessing their options to decide what they will do if or when they move out there. What we are trying to do is build up the money for that particular property so that when it becomes available we will have it. Karen Sticht asked if there was the possibility of putting the Municipal Offices in the Calvary Church and possibly putting Article 16 & 17 together at some point in the future. Peter Russell stated that it could be a possibility but the big thing now is the parking. As of now there is no commitment one way or another. Mark Flanders spoke against the Article stating that the more money that is put into this account, the more someone would be asking for in payment for a piece of property they sold the Town. Peter Russell answered that we have an agreement from 5 years ago with the Church. If and when they decide to sell, it will be based on the appraisal of the actual property. Marie Valliere asked about the land on Plymouth St. that was purchased last year for parking.

Peter Russell responded that the land would be used for a staging site for the construction project on Plymouth St./Rte.3 North. That project is not complete yet and once it is completed there will be a parking lot developed there. Marie Valliere questioned the property that was bought across from Prescott Park. Mr. Russell responded that it was purchased for a water line loop but the Board of Selectmen have had some informal discussions about also having that for over flow parking at Prescott Park for the new Community Center.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. Article 17 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program – 2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars ($40,000.00).

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Michel, that the Town Adopt Article 18 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes spoke to the Article stating that a few questions may be asked. If the State doesn't put up their $2.00, then we don't put up our $1.00. Right now the Town account balance is $217,154.00 and the State-matching portion is $434,308.00. This is generally used for Pleasant St., Barnard Ridge, Pease Rd., Winona Rd. and used for the traffic lights at Rte 3& 104 and some of it will be used on the Parade Rd. intersection.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee called for the vote. ARTICLE 18 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Michel and Seconded by Selectman Flanders, that the Town Adopt Article 19 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Michel stated that this is the 7th year of funding and currently the balance available in the account is $93,261.00. the un-funded liability is $288,371.00., leaving an un-funded portion of $195,110.00.

Steve Blake spoke in favor of the Article. Bob Ambrose asked about the un-funded liability. Selectman Michel stated that if every employee retired on the same day we would owe $195,110.00. The Town policy, a few years ago, was that you could carry forward vacation and sick time unlimited, now the policy is 30 or 60 days, so we are catching up each year that goes by. Mr. Ambrose asked if at what level would we stop funding this? Peter Russell responded that we are using the un-funded liability at about 10 or 15 thousand dollars a year. What we are seeing with our current work force, within the last 5 years and probably projecting into the next 5 years, is that a number of our employees are reaching retirement age. We hope we will not have to fund the whole thing. This is more of a tool to make sure that we keep with current auditing standards.

No further discussion.

Moderator Losee asked for the vote. Article 19 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) for conducting an engineering survey on Pinnacle Park Road for the purpose of considering the extension of Municipal Sewer to be funded through a betterment assessment.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Flanders and Seconded by Selectman Hughes, that the Town Adopt Article 20 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Flanders state that the Town provided for future expansion when Wagon Wheel Trail sewer was install to continue to Pinnacle Park Rd. Lots on Pinnacle Park Rd. are small and ledgey and the number of lots that would eventually be serviced by a sewer line is approximately 65. The environmental protection of Meredith Bay is of the utmost importance. Alex Levy spoke to the Article

and presented an amendment that read, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) for conducting an engineering survey on Pinnacle Park Rd. for the purpose of evaluating the feasibility, need and return on investment for an extension of the Municipal Sewer service on said road." While Mr. Levy was writing his amendment, Katherine McGuigan asked if 65 properties would be serviced, how many would not be serviced? Selectman Hughes explained that the normal procedure that we have used in the past is that everybody would connect to the public sewer line within 90 days after a final completion of the sewer and anyone could apply for a waver from connection to the Board of Selectmen. That has happened when folks have put in a new septic systems within a year or two before a public sewer line went by their property.

There was further discussion about the lay of the land and exactly how many would not benefit from the project. Selectman Flanders stated that this is an engineering study to get some idea of the amount of money to be expended and once an amount came back we could get a budget together.

Mark Flanders clarified the question stating that all properties up to the point indicated would be serviced. Moderator Losee then read Mr. Levy's amendment. "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) for conducting an engineering survey on Pinnacle Park Rd. for the purpose of evaluating the feasibility, need and return on investment for a Municipal Sewer line on said road." Bob Kennelly seconded the Amendment to the Article. Moderator Losee then read the original wording of Article 20 and re-read the wording of Mr. Levy's amendment so that everyone would understand that the amount was the same only the wording changed.

Peter Russell spoke about how the betterment assessment process works. We are pre-planning and then we will see if property owners along that road want to pay for that improvement or not. Gus Jenkins asked about the parameters on the engineering study, if it will go to the crest of the hill or go all the way down Pinnacle Park Rd. Selectman Flanders stated that has not been determined as of yet, that is what the study is for. There is a lot to take into consideration. Chris Kelley asked if it was better to ask the people on Pinnacle Park Rd. if they want the service, before we spend the $25,000.00. Peter Russell responded that there have been numerous inquires at Town Hall. He further stated that we couldn't ask them if they want the service until we have the study done, then we'll have an amount to tell them.

Moderator Losee then explained the Amendment and asked for the vote. The Amendment was Defeated.

Moderator Losee then asked for a vote on the original Article Article 20 Passed in the majority.

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Million Eight Hundred Thirty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Dollars ($9,838,780) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Motion by Selectman Hughes and Seconded by Selectman Michel, that the Town Adopt Article 21 as proposed.

Discussion: Selectman Hughes stated that the Selectmen have attempted to propose a budget which will maintain a tax rate at a reasonably stable level, provide prudent financial planning and continue to improve our community. Our Municipal tax rate projections are of a conservative, or worse case scenario based upon a actual revenues, tax base growth, fund balance utilization and grants obtained. The final tax rate, historically, has been either at or below the March projections. He then asked from the voters, a vote in the affirmative.

Moderator Losee asked if there were any comments. Harold Noreen asked about the Non-CIP-Capital Projects line on the Budget Summary page, all the Town Managers recommendations were approved except this one, which was increased by the Selectmen. Peter Russell responded that particular item is comprised of three things, a CIP item for a sewer in a Public Works project improvement in down town for $100,000.00, we have a $27,750.00 cost to build an additional parking lot on the Shep Brown's land and we have the $25,000.00 that the Board of Selectmen agreed to put on the Warrant Article for the sewer study that we just talked about. Rudy Koczera asked why the over all increase from 2002 of $8,004,941.00 to 2003 of $8,956,753.00? Selectman Hughes explained that there would be new personnel in the Parks and Recreation Dept.; there is an increase in the Building's and Grounds for the maintenance of the new fields in the Prescott Park, a new Police cruiser and numerous other projects. Mr.Koczera then asked if we are now using money that hadn't been spent in prior years to offset the over all increase and expenses of $1,000,000.00 this year? Peter Russell responded that this last year was not a normal year because of the increase in the tax base in the community we actually reduced the amount of fund balance that we used down to $500,000.00. We have been running a million, a million two, the last ten years. The 1.25 we're talking about, for this year's budget, is very normal to what we have been doing in previous years. The State of New Hampshire recommends that we keep between 5 and 10% for a fund balance and ours is at about 7%. Mark Flanders then asked about the $110,000.00 for a Safety Building Peter Russell responded it was for Public Safety Land. Selectman Hughes further responded, the Warrant Article that we passed was increased $110,000.00 over what we were originally talking of. Mark Flanders then commended the Selectmen on stabilizing the budget. David Sticht asked about the Landfill Closure and Prescott Park Expansion on the Summary Report of the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Peter Russell explained that the landfill is closed but under the State and Federal regulations, we have to monitor the ground water there for a thirty -year period. The Prescott Park Project is not finished yet and there is some additional money in this operational budget to finish and the Committee is having an open house on the 7th of June to welcome people and tour the facilities.

Brian Flanders then moved the Article.

Moderator Losee asked for a vote on Article 21. ARTICLE 21 Passed in the majority.

Moderator Losee then closed Town Meeting 2003 at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk

Assessing

Lena Watson-Bolton, Assessor
Menta Martel, Assessing Clerk

Understanding Your Assessment

Buyers and sellers in the market place *create value*. The assessor's office studies the market and collects information about properties in order to *estimate value*.

What causes property values to change?

A property's value can change for many reasons. The most obvious is that the property changes. Such as remodeling, adding a garage, deck, shed or addition.

The most frequent cause of a change in value is a change in the market. A shortage of houses in a desirable neighborhood can cause prices to increase. In a recession, larger homes may stay on the market for a long time, but more affordable homes are in demand, so their prices rise. In a stable neighborhood, with no pressure from the market, inflation may increase property values.

What can you do to ensure that your assessment is correct?

Review the facts on your property record card. Check the lot size, the living area of your home, the number of bedrooms, number of bathrooms, the type of heating system, the presence or absence of finished basement, garage, deck, fireplace, and the overall condition. Make sure all the information is correct.

Review the property record card and compare the features of similar properties in your neighborhood or a similar neighborhood(s). In addition, become familiar with what properties are selling for and how they compare to your property.

The Appeal Process

There is an appeal process available to any property owner who believes the assessment of their property is in error. The error can be either:

1) The physical data is incorrect
2) The market value, supported by comparable sales
3) The assessment exceeds the general level of assessment shown by comparing the property's assessment with assessments on other properties in town.

The first level of appeal is to the local board of selectmen. The request for abatement must be made in writing by March 1st following notice of tax. Abatement applications are available at the town hall.

If local board neglect, or refuse to satisfactorily abate the tax, the second level of appeal is either to the Board of Tax and Land Appeals in Concord or to the Belknap County Superior Court. Appeal must be filed on or before September 1; however, you should verify this date with BTLA and Belknap County Superior Court.

Conservation Commission

Philip Mercer, Chairman

Your Conservation Commission had another very busy year. Bob LeCount, Chair of the Dredge and Fill Committee, reviewed over 50 applications. John Sherman, Chair of the Open Space Committee, field reviewed all Town Forests and Conservation Easements marking bounds and to assure regulation compliance. Peter Miller, Chair of the Grant Committee, logged hundreds of hours writing grants and negotiating with grantors. I am pleased to announced that we will receive grants and gifts for Longridge Farm & Eames Trust Property totaling over $650,000, and we have two additional grant requests outstanding whose outcome we will learn by spring/summer of 2004.

We have requested a $500,000 bond issue to cover the additional money needed to purchase the Longridge Farm Easement of 125 acres and the Frances Eames Trust Land of 188 acres. Both the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen are recommending the bond issue be approved. Jacquie Colburn, Chair of the Natural Resource Inventory Committee is nearing the completion of a two-year project to catalog all of Meredith's natural resources. This will be available by spring 2004.

Bobbi Smyth and Pauli Novicki Chair the Publicity Committee. They have published hundreds of articles and pictures of your conservation commission endeavors and were instrumental in developing the power point program that provides a virtual tour of Hamlin Town Forest, Longridge Farm and Frances Eames Wildlife area.

I thank all the commission members' alternates, stewards and friends for the hundreds of volunteer hours given for the conservation effort to the Town of Meredith.

Conservation Committee Members, Alternates, Stewards and friends:

Philip Mercer, Chairman
John Sherman, Vice-Chairman
Robert LeCount, Secretary and Treasurer
Members: Jacquie Colburn, Peter Miller, Pauli Novicki, Barbara Smyth
Alternates: Paul Del Frari, Stacey Herbold, Ron Kiesel, Ralph Pisapia, Jack Robinson
Stewards: Ann Keller, Terry Lance, Don MacFarlane
Friends: Paula Wanzer

Beaver Pond, Frances Eames Trust Land

Longridge Farm

Finance Department

Brenda L. Vittner, Finance/General Assistance Director
Carrie Compton, Town Accountant
Linda LaBraney, Finance/General Assistance Officer
Gail Brace, Finance/Municipal Office Clerk

There have been many changes within Town Hall during 2003. Upon reflection, 2003 was a very busy and productive year. The Finance Department has been training and preparing for the final conversion to new accounting software. We are all very excited to be learning a new system that will enhance our efficiency. The conversion progressed module by module. The first module to be on-line was Property Taxes. As with any conversion, there were glitches and problems, however, with the dedicated staff in Town Hall, we were able to work through the issues and help the programmers make a better product for us. The second module was for the Town Clerk. The motor vehicle and animal licensing modules went smoothly. At year-end, we made the final jump with General Ledger, Cash Receipting, Payroll, Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable. Although frustrating at times, the staff has stepped up and truly made the conversion less stressful. Looking forward to 2004, our goal is to finish converting the final modules, review and implement new efficiencies within our department and work closely with the new Town Manager to enable her to have a positive impact on the Town of Meredith.

Our office submitted bid requests for the printing of our Town Report. Due to the competitive bidding process we were able to save the town money and also produce a report that is very informative with many more pictures and graphs then in the past. Our 2002 report was entered in the New Hampshire Municipal Association's Town Report Contest and again was awarded first place.

Fire Department

Charles G. Palm, Fire Chief

As we move into a new year, we have the opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments occurring during 2003. Statistically, our run or call volume decreased slightly from last year, with 291 total calls as compared to 299 runs during 2002. During the year we also experienced a slight decrease in the average number of Department members responding to a call to slightly over 11 members, down from approximately 12 per call last year. This decrease results from a number of reasons, such as time of day, day of the week, nature of the call and of course, the overall availability of personnel at any given time. One of the best examples supporting this statement is the relatively high volume of Mutual Aid calls, where our Department has been requested to supply manpower and/or equipment to another City or Town in our mutual aid group. For these types of calls, we may be asked to send one truck and crew, consisting of four people and in these cases our members will often standby at their regular jobs and will respond only when necessary. A recap of our call volume follows:

	2003	2002	2001	2000
Fire Related (structure, vehicle and brush)	8.6%	10.7%	13.8%	9.5%
Mutual Aid (assisting neighboring towns)	19.2	14.1	14.9	18.6
Rescue (motor vehicle accidents, medical)	26.8	30.1	32.6	30.6
Public Assist (alarm activations, etc.)	45.4	45.1	38.7	41.3
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total number of calls	**291**	**299**	**282**	**264**

Fire Department continued

Fire Related" activity includes responses for all types of fires. Fortunately, most of these were relatively minor in terms of property loss and no one was injured in any of these calls. Virtually all of these types of calls involved either carelessness or a lack of proper maintenance. Some of the things that we encounter most often include the lack of chimney cleaning for wood burning appliances such as wood stoves; leaving appliances such as clothes dryers unattended while operating; improper disposal of ashes from fire places and wood stoves; not having an oil or fuel leak repaired in a vehicle on a timely basis; etc. These are just a few of the actual causes of fires that we responded to this past year. Nearly every firefighter would also be quick to point out a couple of other potentially life saving measures that everyone should take – checking smoke detectors on a regular basis and having a fire extinguisher in working order and well displayed for quick use. Please, take a few minutes and do a quick home inspection, check for these and other things that could contribute to a possible problem. We at the Fire Department are always glad to assist if you should have questions.

"Mutual Aid" calls are those where a surrounding community had an emergency situation and due to the need for either additional equipment and/or manpower, requested the assistance of our Department. As a participant in the Lakes Region Fire Mutual Aid, we periodically are called upon to help our neighboring towns, as they in turn are called upon to help us in our time of need.

"Rescue Calls" continue to be the one area that we have experienced almost consistent annual increases, although this past year we did experience a slight decline. The largest contributor to calls in this category is motor vehicle accidents. As with fire related calls, most of these accidents can be avoided with an increased attention to the driving function, including the need to always drive within the limits of both you and your vehicle. As a reminder, four or all-wheel drive vehicles may increase your ability to move in bad weather; however, the ability to stop does not improve with four-wheel drive!

In the last category, "Public Assist", the majority of these calls relate to some type of alarm activation, such as fire or carbon monoxide detectors. Generally, these types of calls are referred to as "False Alarms", and are most often the result of a lack of maintenance. A point to ponder is "How many alarm activations may not occur when needed?" For this reason, we ask that you test your systems to help reduce the possibility of a detector not working when it should. Most detector manufacturers suggest that a smoke or carbon monoxide detector be replaced with a new unit every ten years.

The Department continues to strive to be prepared to serve the citizens and visitors to Meredith in their time of need. This not only includes having a number of active and dedicated people on the Department, it also includes active team members in both our Auxiliary and Explorer Post. All three groups have not only been active but also devoted to furthering the goal of being prepared to serve our Community, for which we all are very grateful.

In closing, the members of the Department team would like to thank all of the citizens of the Town of Meredith for their support. Please have a safe and healthy 2004.

Forest Fire Warden

Charles G. Palm, Warden

This was a very good year for outdoor fires, with only a small number of calls requiring the Fire Department, unlike out West. There were still a large number of complaints that were followed up by me or by one of the Deputy Wardens. Most of these complaints involved incidents where individuals had the proper permits; however, the permit holders left their fires unattended, while they went about their other business. As a reminder, State law requires a valid fire permit, **whenever** a fire is kindled out-of-doors, unless there is adequate snow cover. To assist in what adequate snow cover is, please keep an eye on our Smokey the Bear signs. Whenever the burning conditions are displayed, such as "LOW, MODERATE, etc.", a permit is necessary. It is very easy to obtain a permit – you need to be the landowner (or have written permission of the landowner) and you must be at least 18 years of age. A permit can be obtained, at no cost, through the Downtown Fire Station, the Town Office, Y-Landing Marina, or the Meredith Center Store during their normal business hours. Also be prepared to show a photo ID, such as a driver's license. Permits are good for up to three days, starting with the day of issue. Seasonal permits for certain types of fires are also available. Violators of the permit requirement are subject to fines by the State in the amount of up to $2,000 and/or a year in jail. It should be kept in mind, even with a valid permit, that under State law, any damage caused as a result of a kindled fire becomes the obligation of the party responsible for kindling the fire, including the **cost of suppression**.

As a reminder, effective in January 2003, the burning of residential trash became unlawful. The local permit issuers will still issue a permit (usually on a seasonal basis) for a "Burn Barrel"; however, this burn barrel permit is for the use of the land owner to more safely burn natural debris, such as twigs, small branches, etc. A complaint follow up resulting in discovering that a burn barrel is being used for trash burning will result in the voiding of the permit and may be subject to **D**epartment of **E**nvironmental **S**ervices involvement. The regulation dealing with residential trash burning is **not** a Division of Forestry issue but one that DES is mandating. Specific questions or concerns regarding this matter should be followed up with DES at 800-498-6868 or "www.des.state.nh.us".

In closing, on behalf of myself, and our local deputy wardens, we all appreciate everyone's awareness and express our appreciation in helping us do our job.

Remember Smokey the Bear's slogan – ***"Only you can prevent forest fires".***

Main Station

Meredith Center Station

General Assistance

Brenda L. Vittner, Finance/General Assistance Director
Linda J. LaBraney, Finance/General Assistance Officer

In 2003 the Town assisted over sixty clients living in the Town of Meredith. The Town offers direct relief in the form of vouchers paid directly to vendors for such needs as food, rent, heat, utilities, and prescriptions. New Hampshire law (RSA 165) requires each town to assist people who live within their jurisdiction, who have no other means of support, who require temporary assistance, or whose bare minimum expenses exceeds their customary income.

If you or someone you know are in need of assistance, please contact our office at 279-4538. If you are interested in receiving information on: debt crisis, tenant rights, eviction process, divorce/separation, security deposits, domestic violence, custody rights and/or child support call 1-800-639-5290 or go online at www.larcnh.org. We are here to help.

We would also like to thank the local Churches, local Businesses, Service Organizations, Community Action Program and residents who have joined the town in assisting people in need.

Information Technology/ Geographic Information System

Robin McCann, IT/GIS Specialist

Technology is playing an increasingly important role in the day-to-day operation of the municipal offices, and in the creation and sharing of information in general. To address these growing needs, the Town of Meredith IT/GIS (information technology/geographic information system) division was created early in 2003. Rather than securing the services of outside contractors to maintain and upgrade the computer systems, most of the work is now done in-house at a considerable savings and decrease in response time.

Meredith at last has a presence on the worldwide web at www.meredithnh.org, and the fledgling website receives several hundred visitors each month. The site is designed to convey background information on the town, its offices and their functions, and notices of meetings and events to Meredith residents and other interested parties; any feedback or suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

The Meredith GIS is a computer-based system linking multiple databases to mapped features. This powerful tool is currently being used in creation of the first phase Natural Resource Inventory (due to be completed in the first part of 2004), updated parcel and wetlands mapping, and numerous other projects. A new GPS (global positioning system) unit was recently added to the equipment roster, providing a means of refining existing mapping and creating new layers of information.

Meredith Public Library

Lydia M. Torr, Library Director
Marilyn E. Rushton, Assistant Library Director

The library celebrated 80 years of storytelling in November. Professional Storyteller, Roberta Burke from Franklin, regaled all ages with her expertise.

Hard copy still reigns #1 at the Meredith Public Library. With so much in the News about internet, good and bad, our patrons still enjoy taking a book home with them. Our computer terminals are always in demand for other needs, with users frequently having to wait for one to become available. It is very rewarding to have services accessible to meet the varied needs of all our patrons. Our audio book collection has doubled. Many of our patrons work out of town and what better way to catch up on a current best seller or hot topic in non fiction that to listen to one on the road.

The trustees and staff continually work hard to meet all the up-to-date needs and trends so that you, our patrons, can have a wide range of materials to choose from.

As always, thank you to our taxpayers for continuing to support with enthusiasm all our efforts to have available the very best in library service. Excellence, dependability and consistency are the types of service we give back to our community with pleasure.

Annual Circulation	
Audio Visual Materials	22,635
Books	64,222
Periodicals	2,346
Costumes	599
Interlibrary Loans	1,452
Reference Questions Answered	2,098
Number of Registered Patrons	6,596
Passes to NH Learning/Recreation	340
Internet Usage	6,714
Total Circulation	91,594
Total Inventory	44,088

Acquisitions	
Audio Visuals	748
Books	3,145
Gifts	478
Lost/Discarded	5,816

Planning & Zoning Administration

John C. Edgar, AICP, Town Planner
William M. Edney, Code Administrator
Mary Lee Harvey, Administrative Assistant
Christine Tivnan, Clerk

Planning Board Application Summary – 2003

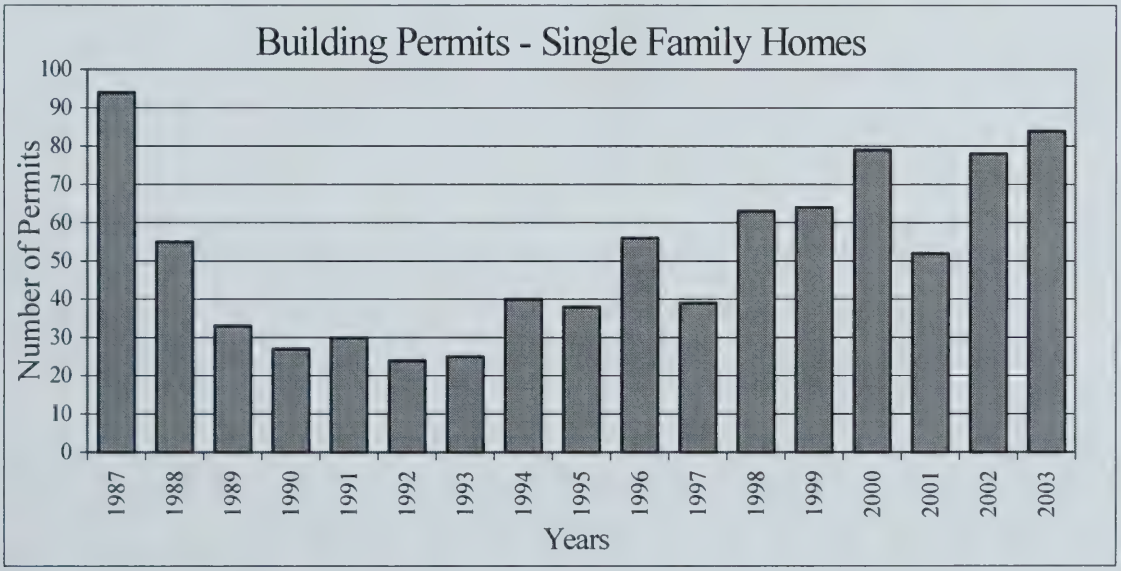
Comm./Indus. Site Plan Approvals	19	Pre-Application Consultations	10
Home Occupation Site Plan Approvals	1	Scenic Road Tree Cutting Approvals	1
Subdivision Approvals	7	Architectural Design Reviews	7
Boundary Line Adjustment Approvals	8	Revocation and/or Disapproval	0

Zoning Board Summary – 2003

Variance Applications	28	Special Exceptions Granted	31
Variances Granted	26	Special Exceptions Denied	2
Variances Denied	2	Rehearing Requests Granted	1
Applications Withdrawn	0	Rehearing Requests Denied	0
Special Exception Applications	33	Administrative Decisions Denied	4

Building Permit Activity – 2003

New Single-Family Homes	84	Garages/Storage Buildings	60
Mobile Homes	3	Renovations & Repairs	153
Demolition	34	Driveways	23
Fences	12	Docks/Dock Repairs	46
Swimming Pools	3	Other Structures/Renovations	42
Electrical	213	Plumbing/Burner	192



Construction and permitting activity has continued at a pace consistent with the last several years.

Planning & Zoning Administration continued

This year we saw the completion of the Saint Charles Church on NH Route 25, the Meredith Harley Davidson retail and service facility on US Route 3 and the expansion of the Forestview Manor assisted living complex on NH Route 106 (Parade Road). In 2004, we anticipate the completion of the Meredith Bay Village retirement community on NH Route 25 and the Church Landing hotel on US Route 3. In 2003, several projects were approved that will likely be constructed in 2004, including the redevelopment of the Mobil gas station/convenience store on NH Route 25, the Lovering Volvo-Mitsubishi dealership on US Route 3 and Upper Terrace Avenue, a wireless communications tower at Gilman Hill and the Clover Ridge subdivision on Pease Road. In 2004, we also anticipate several projects to proceed from the informal stage to formal application submission and public hearing. These projects include the Waukewan Village subdivision on Waukewan Street and the Crestwood Estates subdivision on NH Route 106.

In light of this development activity, it is all the more important that we continue to anticipate the incremental effects that growth will have on our community. There are many ongoing community initiatives in this regard.

Capital Improvements: In October of 2003, the Planning Board adopted the 2004-2009 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and forwarded this forecasting tool to the Board of Selectmen and School Board. This document and the Community Plan can be found on the Town's website (www.meredithnh.org). Both are also available on CD at Town Hall.

Facility Needs: In 2003 the Board of Selectmen appointed a Space Needs Study Committee. This committee is charged with assessing the space needs of all town facilities and making recommendations back to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee's work is integral to future amendments of the Capital Improvements Program.

Natural Resources: In 2003, the Planning Office in collaboration with the Conservation Commission initiated a comprehensive inventory of our natural resources. The Natural Resource Inventory will promote "smart conservation" as a tool to help guide future growth and to help prioritize future land conservation projects.

Lake Waukewan: In 2004, we will develop a Source Protection Plan for Lake Waukewan and the surrounding watershed. Lake Waukewan is the water supply for our municipal water system. This important project is being facilitated by the North East Rural Water Association and is supported by the NH Department of Environmental Services and the Meredith Water Department. We plan to engage the five communities that comprise the Lake Waukewan watershed together with a diverse spectrum of stakeholders.

Zoning: Meredith first adopted zoning regulations in 1971. Over the ensuing thirty-three years, the document has been amended annually. The 2002 Community Plan recognizes the importance of ensuring that our zoning laws appropriately provide for the nature and quality of growth the town seeks. Our 2004 budget request includes a $50,000 appropriation request to initiate the laborious but critical tasks of evaluating and re-writing the zoning ordinance.

On a more human note, Meredith resident Chris Tivnan was hired as an addition to our small staff. Chris, working on a part time basis, will provide additional office support and customer service. Welcome Chris! If you are interested in learning more about any of the projects mentioned above, or would like to know about how you can get involved in shaping Meredith's future, please feel free to contact us (279-4538) or stop by the Planning and Zoning Department. We are located on the second floor of Town Hall, 41 Main Street and welcome your input.

Planning & Zoning Administration continued

Capital Improvements Program - Advisory Committee

Peter Brothers, Chairman
Allen Gable, Vice Chairman
Frank S. Michel, Board of Selectmen
Scott Nolan, Inter-Lakes School Board
Pam Bliss, Planning Board
Roland Boucher
Liz Lapham

The Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Advisory Committee continued its fifth year of service to our community. The committee has provided the Town of Meredith and the Inter-Lakes School District with a list of recommendations for capital improvement projects for years 2004-2009 for their budget consideration.

By consensus, the CIP Advisory Committee worked to update and revise its recommendations. The CIP reviews and/or amends previously established obligations or priorities of our "base plan", then add any new projects identified through the annual review process.

The continued need and support for funding of the Community Center is an excellent example of our CIP process working toward a common goal for our community, Town and Schools. Even though the Community Center Search Committee (CCSC) had not progressed to a specific proposal by the time the CIP Advisory Committee was required to pass on its recommendations; our Committee worked with the Selectman and the CCSC with projected debt service from a planning perspective. A dollar amount equal to the projected debt service is included in the CIP Project Reserve line "Reserved for Future CIP Projects" in our Capital Improvements Program document.

The CIP Advisory Committee commends the Meredith Conservation Commission for its efforts to obtain grant funding for the Longridge Farm and Eames property conservation projects. Although significant grants have been pledged which may substantially reduce the impact to the Meredith taxpayer, the Committee believes that backup bond authorization should be available should one or more of the major grants not materialize. The Committee has also strongly recommended that this authorization to borrow be specifically targeted towards these projects and not for future, unspecified acquisition purposes.

Copies of the Capital Improvement Program 2003-2008 are available at the Town Offices and on the Town of Meredith, NH website (www.meredithnh.org on the Planning Department page). We welcome your comments and suggestions, so please contact the Town Planner or Committee Members.

As Chairman of the CIP Advisory Committee, I would like thank the volunteer Advisory Committee members listed above. In 2003, Roland Boucher, a member since 1998, advised us that this would be his last year of service on the committee. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank Roland for his service to the community. In addition, I would like to express my appreciation to the staff of the Town of Meredith and the Inter-Lakes School District for their continued support and contributions to the CIP process. Thank you all!

Respectfully,
Peter F. Brothers, Chairman
Capital Improvements Program Advisory Committee

Police Department

John P. Curran, Chief of Police

The time is once again here to give a report on your police department activities for 2003.

It goes without saying that we cannot operate effectively without the support of our citizens and elected officials. All good operations are a result of teamwork. Employees who feel their community supports them will give their best effort to nourish this support. I look forward to working with our new Town Manager, Carol Granfield, to continue to serve our citizens well.

I will repeat myself when I say that I, as your Chief of Police, am very proud of the staff we have at the Police Department. Our dispatchers and officers work well together, and as a result of this spirit of cooperation we enjoy a reputation as a quality agency among our peers. In December we promoted Lieutenant Kevin Morrow to Captain, and we congratulate him for all his hard work and dedication. Through the coming year we anticipate incorporating other changes to our rank structure.

We have also been working on our physical building, and the carpeting in the Harold G. Wyatt Conference Room. We plan to continue the improvements in 2004 by replacing the carpeting in the offices and records area, which are the original carpets from when the building was built in the mid-1980's.

It gives me great pleasure to sit here as your Police Chief and I look forward to serving you through 2004.

Statistics

	2001	2002	2003
Calls for Service	29,754	34,427	31,886
Warnings/Checkups	3,037	2,466	2,765
Summonses	332	279	234
Arrests	483	469	429
Dogs Licensed	1,180	1,193	1,181
Dog Complaints	400	339	260
Cat Complaints	63	121	37
Reported Bites	22	18	23
Fish & Game Calls	90	90	103
Farm/Domestic	26	32	31

Public Works Departments

Mike Faller, Public Works Director
Al Bolduc, Assistant Director
Monica Bennett, Secretary

In February, Al Bolduc was promoted from 10-wheel Truck Driver/Maintenance III to fill the vacancy for the Assistant Public Works Director. Andy Brackett joined the crew as the new 10-wheel Truck Driver/ Maintenance III for the Highway Division. In our Buildings and Grounds Division, we had two employees leave. Chuck Norwood was hired as the new B&G Foreman and Travis Ambrose was hired as the B&G crewmember.

Highway Division: Winter came roaring in during the month of October and never left us until late April. Our dedicated crews put in many long hours plowing and sanding, working through all of the holidays, as the storms never seemed to let up. Spring was wet, wet, wet with 22 days of rain in May alone. The heavy rains took a toll on roads and drainage systems. The crews were kept busy filling washouts, trucking in gravel and repairing roads. An extensive ditching program was undertaken on many town roads to handle the storm water runoff and prevent road damage. Many catch basins and culverts were repaired and/or replaced.

Many of the road and street signs had to be replaced due to vandalism and theft. A new municipal parking lot was built at Lovejoy Sands to handle the increased number of vehicles using the town docks there. All of the town roads in the Sands of Brookhurst neighborhood were completely rebuilt and new drainage structures installed. Pavement overlays were done on Cataldo Road, Reservoir Road, Circle Drive, Tracy Way, Corliss Hill Road, and binder was paved on Meadow Lane and Blueberry Hill Roads-all in accordance with our CIP Road Project schedule. A portion of Main Street was rebuilt and repaved in conjunction with water and sewer upgrades for the Plymouth Street/Route 3 Project, which was completed in August of 2003.

A good number of hours were put in working to build the new Prescott Park Athletic complex. Crews attended training on chain saws, gravel road maintenance, drug and alcohol awareness, and traffic flagging re-certification. A large number of new driveway permits were issued for the many new residential and commercial structures being built in town. We worked with the Town Planner and Water & Sewer Department on the technical planning for the many new developments proposed for construction in the town.

Buildings and Grounds Division: Heavy snow and ice storms kept the B&G crew busy shoveling roofs and sidewalks throughout the town. Even though both of our Buildings and Grounds employees were new this year, they hit the ground running and have worked hard to keep up with regular maintenance on the buildings, lawns and parks, and trash pickups as well as working on the new fields at Prescott Park. The renovations to the old sewer plant building at Prescott Park were completed, turning it into restrooms and storage area for the new fields and tennis courts at Prescott Park. The ever-expanding facilities and rapidly growing number of residents in town with the increasing demand for services has kept them out working non-stop.

Public Works continued

Solid Waste Division: The final phase of the Landfill is now complete and a green, grassy hill now rises up as a backdrop to our facility. We saw another huge increase in the amount of trash from year-round and summer residents. We utilized a summer intern to help out with the increased demand. Our crew worked very hard this year and we have had many compliments from residents on the service and the clean condition of our facility. The market for glass hit an all time low, so we crushed the glass taken in at the facility and mixed it with gravel to be used for roadbed construction. Recycling this finely crushed material in this way extends our gravel supply with no cost to the town. We appreciate your continued efforts to separate colored glass at the recycling facility. Should the glass markets improve we will again sell our glass for profit. Solid Waste Supervisor, Barry Weeks, reported that Household Hazardous Waste Day in July was a success with 173 vehicles bringing in hazardous waste from multiple households. In addition over 130 gallons of used motor oil and 30 car batteries were collected. Hazardous Waste Collection Day is held annually on the last Saturday of July. He reminds everyone that we are a mandatory recycling facility.

The Cemetery Division: The crew was kept busy doing maintenance on the many cemeteries throughout the town. A huge, rotting tree at the Lang Street Cemetery, adjacent to the day care center, was removed, eliminating a potential hazard. Several more new trees were planted on the fence lines of the Route 3 Village Cemetery. Many monuments were reset and straightened. John Calvin, Cemetery Sexton, (with information from Harold Wyatt) completed an inventory of the 88 small cemeteries located throughout the town and compiled them into a book. This will help people trying to trace their genealogy or find where a relative is buried.

The Public Works Department employees are proud to be a key part in keeping the quality of life in our beautiful community of Meredith. We thank the town residents for their support.

Recreation Department

Vint M. Choiniere, Parks and Recreation Director, CPRP

I would like to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who contributed so much to the success of our programs and activities in 2003. I would also like to thank town and school officials, members of the Public Works Department, Buildings and Grounds, Fire, Police, and Water Department for their continued support of our activities and facility maintenance. Their spirit of cooperation is very much appreciated and vital to the delivery of recreational opportunities to our community.

Over the past three years the Parks and Recreation Department has experienced tremendous growth in terms of offering new and exciting programs, expansion of recreation facilities and the recruitment and training of professional staff. To help keep pace with this growth, the Parks and Recreation Department hired Rick Desharnais as full time Program Director in April 2003. Rick had previously worked with the Parks and Recreation Department over the past several years in part time positions such as Playground Counselor, Playground Director, Gunstock Ski & Snowboard Director, Vacation Activities Counselor, and Skating Instructor. Rick's proven recreation and physical education background strengthens the department's ability to meet the ever-increasing demand for leisure services. Rick has been a very welcome addition to our staff and his energy and effort has been both productive and much appreciated.

Activities and programs offered in 2003 include:

Senior Exercise
Boston Pops Holiday Concert
Annual Community Skating Party
Adult Improvisational Movement
Junior Strength Training
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting
American Red Cross Babysitting
Greetings from the Easter Bunny
Hershey Track & Field Program
Family Entertainment Series
Family Fun Night & Lot Dance
Ice Fishing Program
Flower Arrangement Class
New England Shakespeare Festival
Coed Youth Soccer
Youth Gym & Fitness
Indoor Rock Climbing
North Pole Calling
Swim & Skate Trip
Coed Pick Up Basketball
Ice Skating Lessons
Snowmobile Trip
Skate Park Trips
Summer Concert Series
Antique Boat Show
Summer Playground Program
Woman's Recreational Tennis
Street Dance
Fall Family Fun Fest
Skateboarding Lessons
Snow Tubing
Kidz Yoga
Snow Shoeing
Yoga
Mini-Sports
Tennis
Coed T-Ball
Swim Team
Swim Lessons
Whale Watch
Archery Program
Winter Carnival
Boston Red Sox
Fall Hikes
Moose Tours

Glenn Hart Memorial Skate Park

On August 2, 2003 our skate park was dedicated in honor of Glenn Hart. The skate park continues to be a very popular and successful operation, offering skaters and bikers a safe supervised place to enjoy seven days per week. Several special events such as competitions and exhibitions were offered in 2003 and we thank Nu Wave Sports, Old School, and Lakes Region Cyclery for their co-sponsorship of these events.

Recreation Department continued

Prescott Park Expansion

The Prescott Park Expansion Project was dedicated on September 13, 2003. The project provided (6) tennis courts, (1) regulation soccer field, (1) youth soccer field, and (1) 90' baseball diamond. The facilities generated much positive feedback from all user groups. We thank the Prescott Park Planning Committee for their dedicated service and for providing these first class facilities.

Prescott Park Planning Committee

Bob Flanders, Chairperson
Steve Blake
Hank Denison
Eileen Harris
Bill West
John Edgar, Town Planner
Vint M. Choiniere, Parks & Recreation Director
Peter Brothers
Earl Dodge
Carl Johnson, Jr.
Joe Dever
Peter Russell, Former Town Manager

Community Center

The Community Center Search Committee was hard at work in 2003 researching the construction of a community center in Meredith. The CCSC surveyed the community's needs and wishes regarding what the community center should offer and provide for the people of all ages. The CCSC plans to make an informed recommendation to the Board of Selectmen in time for the 2004 Town Meeting. We thank the members of the CCSC for their hard work and dedication to this exciting project.

Community Center Search Committee

Darrell Jenkins, Chairperson
Joe Dever
Richard Gerken
William Lance, Sr.
Paula Wanzer
Christopher P. Williams, Architects
Christopher Williams
Sonya Misiaszek
Vint M. Choiniere, Parks & Recreation Director
Carol Gerken
Eileen Harris
Tammy Levesque
Frank Michel, Board of Selectmen
Bauen Corporation
Andre Kloetz
Jeff Parks

We are very proud of our Recreation Staff members who are all professionals in their field. They take great pride in offering interesting and enjoyable opportunities in a safe and supportive environment.

I encourage you to become involved by sharing your thoughts, ideas, and talents with us and I look forward to working together to provide quality recreational opportunities for all to enjoy now and into the future. Have a safe and healthy year in 2004.

Recreation Department continued

Coed Youth Soccer

Skate Park

Fall Family Fun Fest

Swim Meet

Prescott Park Dedication
September 13, 2003

Town Clerk Department

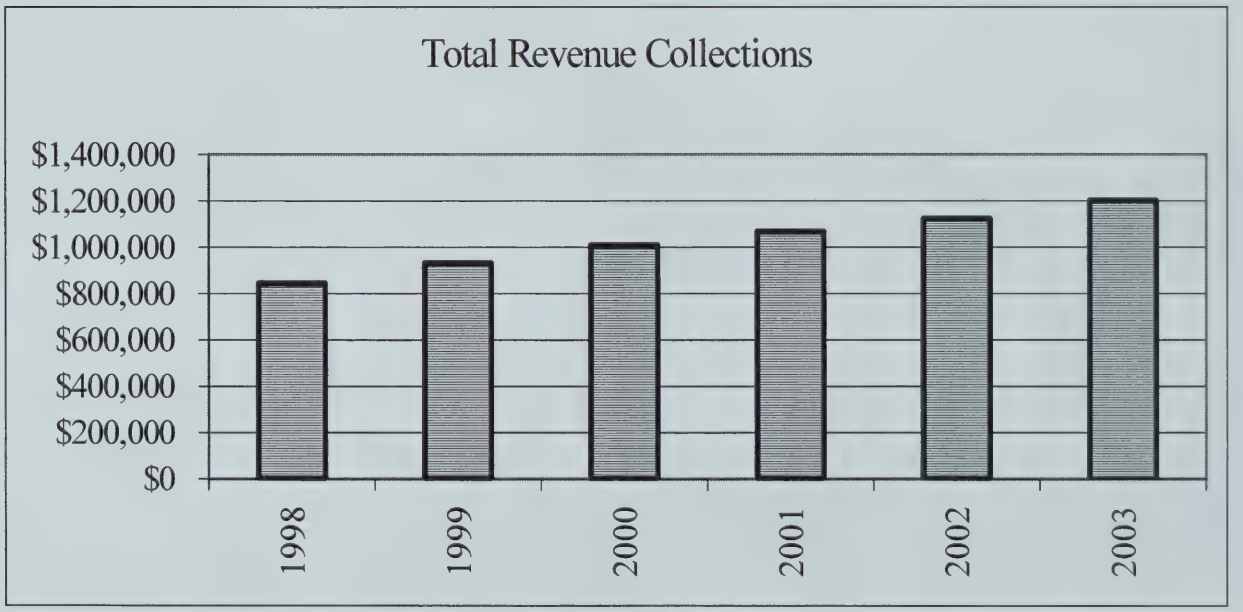
Pauline L. Jones, Town Clerk
Sheila M. Vachon, Deputy Town Clerk

Where did 2003 go? It seems that we just get used to it and it's gone. Our office continues to be very busy with a new Motor Vehicle program conversion. MuniSmart Systems, LLC has up-dated us with a system that is much quicker and eventually we will be connected directly with the State. Governor Benson is pushing for renewals on the Internet and as soon as it is in place a notice will be placed in the paper. We are constantly being updated on all the new laws so as to serve the needs of our residents.

Sheila has completed her third and final year of the Certification Program. Sheila also continues to hold the position of Deputy Fire Marshall. Paula continues to represent the Town of Meredith as a member of the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Executive Board and Member of the Legislative Board.

The 2003 Town Clerk Department Collections were as follows:

Auto Registrations (10,151)		1,145,350.61
Dogs (1,152)		8,745.50
Miscellaneous:		47,835.96
(Includes):	UCC Filings, Marriage Licenses, Vital Records Copies, Aquatherm Permits, Dredge & Fill Permits, Mailings, and Notary/Justice Fees.	
	Total Revenue Collected	$1,201,932.07



We greatly appreciate your continued support and we are always willing to help if it is within our capacity to do so.

Water and Sewer Departments

Robert Hill, Superintendent
Staff: Daniel Cutting, Chuck Wade, Lee Bavis and Donna Turner

2003 proved to be another busy year in both Departments. The Route3/Plymouth Street Project was completed and residents along Route 3 are beginning to connect to the municipal sewer system.

The Meredith Bay Village community on Route 25 has connected to the Town's water and sewer mains bringing on 70 new services.

East Bluff Village sewer extension was completed removing 18 homes off of septic systems and on to municipal sewer. This project was paid for through a betterment assessment and state financial aid.

The Canal, Colby, Clough Street sewer and road reconstruction, is planned to be put out for bid this winter with construction in early 2004.

2003 testing of water quality passed all EPA/State requirements to insure you the highest standards of water possible to meet your needs.

We are providing service for 25 new water accounts and 51 sewer accounts, which have connected to municipal services.

New sewer and water mains extensions are being installed at 18 Mile Point Road in anticipation of 20 new homes.

Engineering designs are underway for the reconstruction of the Wicwas Dam in Meredith Center. This will upgrade the dam to a safer level and meet state requirements.

I would like to thank Public Works, the Police Department, and Town Hall for assisting us when necessary.

As always, thank you for allowing us to serve you and for your support.

American Legion - Griggs/Wyatt Post 33

Bob Kennelly, Commander
Tim Morrill, 1st Vice Commander
Peter Fischer, 2nd Vice Commander
Herb Vadney, Finance Officer
Haywood Price, Sgt-At-Arms
Elliot Finn, Historian
Marc Sullivan, Chaplin
Jack Kelly, Adjutant

The Post, located on Plymouth Street for over 80 years is the most consistent part of Meredith history and as such we are committed to putting Veterans and the community of Meredith first. We have about 250 Legion members, about 125 Ladies Auxiliary members and about 55 S.A.L. members. All three organizations work together to try to make our Post a well run one. We have a canteen that is open to members and their guests 7 days a week with different operating hours every day. Our meetings are held at 7 pm the first Tuesday of every month except July and August. We also work with the youth of the Meredith area through the schools, the Meredith Recreation Department and the Santa Fund.

We hope to get area residents interested in our activities, which are as follows:
The Fishing Derby in February
Memorial Day
The Fourth of July
Meredith Home Day and Fine Arts & Crafts Festival in August
New Years Eve & Day
3rd Annual 9/11 Tribute
4th Annual Golf Tournament in September
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving
Christmas
Please check The Meredith News or at The Post for dates and times.

American Red Cross

Susanne M. Weldon-Francke, Chairman

The American Red Cross, Greater White Mountain Chapter provides programs and services to help individuals prepare for, prevent and respond to emergencies and disasters. The Greater White Mountain Chapter covers a 3,000 square mile area from Gilmanton to the Canadian border. Red Cross has four major program areas; emergency disaster services, health and safety services, armed forces emergency services and biomedical/blood services.

Emergency Disaster Services provide relief for replacement of basic human needs, food, clothing, shelter, medicine and mental health counseling after a fire, flood, major snow/ice storm, hurricane, and other natural or man-made disaster or terrorist attack.
Health and Safety programs educate communities in CPR, oxygen, administration, instructor training, sports safety, emergency response, water safety, first aid, emergency response, babysitting, automated external defibrillation and HIV/AIDS prevention.
Armed Forces Emergency Services communicates emergency messages from family members to military personnel. The American Red Cross serves as the intermediary between families and the US military case management system.
Biomedical/Blood Services provide many blood products to area hospitals in the community and across the state.

Last fiscal year, the Greater White Mountain Chapter provided assistance to three families in the Town of Meredith. The families were victims of a home fire, a mobile home fire and an electrical fire. Red Cross provided food, lodging and warm clothing for the victims. One hundred twenty people in the Town of Meredith received training in babysitting, water safety, learn to swim, CPR and first aid. The Red Cross also provided emergency communication to two military families in the Town of Meredith.

Child and Family Services

George R. Samuels, Director of Family Counseling

Child and Family Service very much appreciates the support that we have received from the town of Meredith. Child and Family Services is New Hampshire's oldest, non-sectarian, charitable social service organization. We have been serving New Hampshire children and families for since 1850.

Your support, combined with other funds, has enabled us to provide an increased amount of services to the residents of Meredith In the year ending June 30th, we provided 882 hours of service and 6 days of group home care to 38 Meredith residents. The services provided included Family and Children's counseling, supervised visitation, child abuse prevention and teen services. Other CFS services available to Meredith residents include Camp Spaulding, a residential camp for low-income children.

The Lakes Region office is located at 95 Water Street in Laconia. The Lakes Region Board, which helps guide local programming, includes representatives from Meredith and other Lakes Region towns.

Community Health and Hospice, Inc.

Margaret Franckhauser, Executive Director

Community Health & Hospice, Inc. is a not-for-profit home health and community service organization offering services to the towns of Belknap County. Our services range from the pediatric health care of infants and children to end-of-life care through the hospice program. Last year, Community Health was privileged to serve Meredith residents with home and support services to complement the services offered by Meredith Public Health Nursing.

Last year, CH&H made over 1700 visits to Meredith residents. In particular, Meredith saw a 225% increase in the number of services delivered through the Hospice and Palliative Care program. Hospice services embody a philosophy that helps people to live life to its fullest when the end of life is near. As a Medicare certified Hospice organization, Community Health & Hospice works with the patient, the family and the physician to help bring peace and comfort to individuals. In addition, the agency offers bereavement support for friends and family after death, and 20 Meredith residents took part in this service.

In the care of children, Meredith saw a 15% increase in the number of support services given to families with young children. The *Pediatric Care Management* program connected 36 Meredith children with health insurance through the NH Healthy Kids and guided 42 more families in securing other services to enhance the health and well being of their children. Lastly, financial support from Meredith was also used to assist in funding over 470 homemaker visits to the elderly and disabled. These services are designed to help avoid institutionalization and are in high demand.

We are extremely grateful for the $7,000 appropriation given to Community Health & Hospice to enable us to carry out our mission to town residents. It has been a privilege to serve Meredith, and we hope to continue offering our services well into the future.

Emergency Management Agency

Steve Bennett, Emergency Management Director
Peter Russell, Assistant Director

In 2003 the members of the Emergency Management team worked on the research and development of a draft for a proposed Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Town of Meredith.

Professional assistance was supplied from the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management and the Lakes Region Planning Commission. The final draft was presented to the Meredith Board of Selectmen in October of 2003.

As this plan travels through the local, state and federal review process, we look forward to the upcoming program being developed that will allow additional assistance to help us identify and then eliminate problems before they become emergencies for our citizens.

Also, in 2003, the Selectmen appointed Peter Russell as Assistant Director of Meredith Emergency Management. As former Town Manager for many years, Mr. Russell brings to this position a wealth of knowledge and experience. I look forward to working with him.

I would like to thank our town officials and department heads for all their assistance during this past year, and also thanks to our citizens for their support and consideration.

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center & Nursery School

Connie Pelletier, Executive Director

On behalf of Inter-Lakes Day Care Center and Nursery School and those we serve, I would like to offer a sincere thank you to the Town of Meredith for its continued support. We greatly appreciate the solid support for our families and the community.

Inter-Lakes Day Care Center and Nursery School is open on a year-round basis in two sites from 6:30 am to 5:30 pm, making it possible for parents to maintain employment. Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, the Center operates comprehensive, developmentally appropriate infant, toddler, preschool, and school age extended-day programs with a full range of services including full and part time child care, morning preschool programs, summer and vacation day camp programs, and USDA approved hot meals and snacks. Guided by a professional staff, the children receive an educational program along with the services of health care, special needs, vision and hearing screening, dental care, and transportation for kindergarten. Through the State of New Hampshire under the Title XX Child Care Scholarship Program, sliding fee scale tuition based on family size and income is available for purposes of employment, training, and pursuit of degree or certificate programs, job search and temporary disability. Additional services include sponsorship of the Inter-Lakes Family Daycare Nutrition Program, a group of 27 licensed home daycare providers who receive federal reimbursement from USDA, by serving approved meals and snacks while providing care for children of working parents.

Kidworks Learning Center

Deborah Tolman, Director

Kidworks Learning Center is a private, non-profit organization that provides a variety of programs to area children aged 6 weeks to 12 years, including Infant/Toddler, Preschool, Kindergarten, Before and After School, and Summer Enrichment Programs. The center participates in the State of NH Childcare Scholarship program, which provides tuition assistance to families who qualify. With support from the USDA Food Program, we provide breakfast, lunch, and snacks to all children in attendance. We are open year round from 6:30am to 5:30 pm, and welcome children of all races, color, national origin, sex and ability.

This year, Kidworks has been fortunate to participate in the Quality Matters Initiative in cooperation with the Lakes Region Community Services Council. The goal of this program is to improve the quality of childcare programs in the Lakes Region through a self-assessment process. Representatives from our center attended an extensive training on how to use an Environment Rating Scale, and worked with a Quality Matters "coach" to assess our program. In addition to a center evaluation, individual staff members are encouraged to complete professional development plans in order to ensure continued education and training. We were thrilled to find we scored highly in many areas, and are striving to make improvements to our building.

On behalf of the families, staff, and Board of Directors of Kidworks Learning Center, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the Town of Meredith for its continued support of our agency.

Laconia Motorcycle Rally & Race Week Association

Charlie St. Clair, Executive Director

The Laconia Motorcycle Week Association is a non-profit promotional organization for Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and State of New Hampshire. Throughout each year, we travel to the International Motorcycle Trade Shows, with attendance at over 400,000 people, at the following locations: New York, Minneapolis, Atlanta, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, Daytona Beach, Baltimore, Denver, and Boston in order to promote this area and the Oldest National Rally, Motorcycle Week. As well as the trade shows, this Association promotes Motorcycle Week, the Lakes Region and the State of New Hampshire through an advertising campaign in trade magazines throughout the United States and Canada. Each year, two editions of the Laconia Rally News are printed and distributed to a direct market around the world. This magazine gives helpful information for first time visitors to the area as well as those who return each year. A motel list is included with various lodging information from Laconia, Meredith, and across the State. The Official Motorcycle Week website www.laconiaMCweek.com averages well over a hundred thousand hits per month and offers links to other venues including information on the Town of Meredith.

Appropriated funds received from the Town of Meredith as Board Member dues, allow this Association to have a continued partnership with the town in order to offer the Association's assistance in items to do with the Rally. The successfulness and sustainability of Motorcycle Week is made possible through our sponsors and Board members such as the Town of Meredith.

Thank you!

Lakes Region Community Services Council

Richard Crocker, Executive Director

Lakes Region Community Services Council provides support and services to families with children and adults who are developmentally disabled living in the Meredith area and surrounding communities. Some of the supports we provide to people with disabilities include: helping to find jobs, training to stay employed, how to be involved in community events and assist with personal care needs and transportation.

The funds received from your town continue to be used to support the recreation coordinator's position. She has been working with recreation departments and community members in several towns organizing or assisting in events that create opportunities for all to participate.

We would like to thank the citizens of Meredith for your on-going and future support for making recreation opportunities available in your community.

Lakes Region Planning Commission

Kimon Koulet, Executive Director

The Lakes Region has changed tremendously in the past 20 years. Homes and businesses have expanded along major roadways, and many of our communities have experienced dramatic change. This growth has resulted in a number of regional challenges. The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is the area organization established to address the effects of growth at both the local and regional level. With a service area covering over 1,200 square miles in Belknap, Carroll, Grafton and Merrimack Counties, the LRPC provides a wide range of planning services to member municipalities. The Commission offers diverse direct and support services ranging from technical assistance, geographic information systems, and transportation planning, to land use and environmental planning, and economic development. The LRPC is primarily funded from local, state, and federal resources. We are contacted several times daily for answers to local issues. We also maintain a regular dialogue with state agencies as a resource for the entire Lakes Region. Our goal remains to provide support and leadership to the governments, businesses and citizens of the Lakes Region.

Some of our services performed on behalf of Meredith and the region in the past fiscal year include: technical services including research on roads, housing, and census data on behalf of town staff; assisting the planning department with finalizing the new Master Plan, including the development of a PowerPoint presentation for public meeting; co-hosting and organizing three public Municipal Law Lectures where practicing attorneys provide a legal perspective on local planning, zoning and other municipal issues; completion and distribution of the *Lakes Region Demographic Profile*; a comprehensive compilation of key socioeconomic indicators from the US Census, and other data sources; convening several meetings of the LRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to enhance local involvement in transportation planning and project development; initiation of the start of the Lakes Region Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan which will help provide a blueprint for the location of local bike and pedestrian routes; hosting a National flood Insurance Program Workshop for Local Officials that provided an overview of the National Flood Insurance Program and training for local officials; and conducting over 160 traffic counts and several road inventories around the region in cooperation with the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

Meredith Chamber of Commerce

Susan Cerutti, Executive Director

The Meredith Area Chamber of Commerce consists of over 340 businesses who are organized to advance and promote the commercial, industrial, service, professional, tourism, and retail interests of Meredith and its trade area. While many of the activities of the Chamber are tourist related, all segments of the business community make up the membership. All members are listed on the Chambers web site. This past year the Chamber office located at 272 Daniel Webster Highway was open during the winter and the Information Center was open daily from May through October. Visitors to the Center found a wide array of promotional literature. Staffing the Center in 2003 were Judy Manning, Jean Greenlaw, Stephanie Whiting, and Molly Landrigan.

Again this year, the Chamber conducted a national advertising campaign designed to entice people to visit the area and we produced and distributed 225,000 copies of a four color, 24 page, high quality brochure. The 2003 Meredith Area brochure was distributed at high traffic tourist attractions in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, at corporate locations in New England and New York, and in the hotels in the Greater Boston area. The brochures are also at the state rest areas and the Manchester Airport Visitor Center and mailed out in response to inquiries received at the Chamber. All advertising materials contain the Chamber's web address, www.meredithcc.org and our toll free number.

Chamber sponsored events included the Lakes Region Fine Arts and Crafts Festival, the Fourth of July Fireworks, Meredith Area Community Golf Tournament, the SpringFest Gala, The Community Yard Sale, and the Awards Ceremony at the Annual Meeting. Regular Business After Hours and Breakfast Forums were held and The Marine Services Guide, the Around the Town Map, the Wedding Guide, the Professional Guide, and the Service Guide were all continued.

The Chamber greatly appreciates the support of the community for its many activities and is especially appreciative of the cooperation and assistance received from the various departments of the town in carrying out its many projects.

Meredith Community Action Program

Prudence Tylenda, Area Director

The Meredith Community Action Program is a local, community based, non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the needs of the elderly and low-income residents in the Town of Meredith.

During the past year, we have provided $480,885 in services to Meredith residents. As you are aware, our major concern has always been, and will continue to be, the delivery of needed services to the elderly, handicapped and low-income residents of the community. Some of the services we provide are administration of the Fuel Assistance Program, the Women, Infants and Children Program, congregate meals at the Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, emergency food pantry, family planning and transportation. For more information, please contact 279-4096.

We wish to thank the Town of Meredith for it's continued support of CAP.

Meredith Historical Society

John Robinson, President

The Meredith Historical Society is dedicated to preserving the history of our town. Both Museums are open during the summer months. We welcome visitors from all over the world and other historical societies interested in setting up their own museums.

We still have a long way to go in cataloging our artifacts, but it is progressing. When completed we will have computerized as much information as possible about each item in our collection including a photograph of the item. This will help in doing research and answering questions asked by our visitors. The genealogy library continues to grow and is frequently used by the public. One great addition this year was an update of the cemeteries in town given to the Society by the Town. This has been used several times to help visitors find the graves of their ancestors and information about them.

We continue to have monthly programs the first Tuesday of every month from May through November that are open to the public. These programs feature both local and outside speakers and have been well attended this year.

As with any old building, there is always maintenance and repairs to be done on both museums. This year two sides of the Main street building were painted and work on restoring the Farm museum is continuing.

We greatly appreciate the support of the town in helping to make our resources available to the public.

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association

Jane H. Kiah, BS, RN, Executive Director

Meredith Public Health Nursing Association celebrates eighty years of service this year. NPHNA is a Medicare, Medicaid, BC/BS approved and State Licensed non-profit agency that provides Skilled Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Home Health Aides, and Homemaker Service to the residents of Meredith and Center Harbor.

Our staff includes: Jane H Kiah, RN, Executive Director; Patricia Healey, MSN, RN; Eileen Moore, RN; Pat Roscoe, BSN, RN; Joan Wood, MSN, RN; Harriet Redmond, MS, ARNP, Joanne McLean, PT; Craig Walton, PT; Stephen Walton, PT; Renee Colby, PT; Elaine Blizzard, OT; Judy Stoecklin, MSPA, CCC-SLP; Marylin Kimball, LNA; Sheila Grad, LNA; Donna Bilodeau, LNA; Dale Connolly, Office Manager; Annette Paine, Office Asst., and Aglaia Rouvalis, Office Clerk.

Home Visit Services in Meredith during 2003 include: 2470 RN; 397 Weekend/Evenings; 468 Physical Therapy; 168 Occupational Therapy; 3163 LNA; 758 Office Visits; 550 Flu Vaccines.

Memorial gifts were received in memory of Jan Adams, Violet Allen, John Beede, Joanne Brothers, Marion Chase, Harold Creelman, Mildred Creelman, Harry Gleason, Helene Gleason, Gladys Grad, Harriet Hartson, Mildred Hood, Mitchell Johnson, Leo Kershaw, Winona Parker, Ralph Samaha, Cecil Smith, Margaret Soley, Elsie Stevenson, and Alice Weeks.

A sincere thank you is extended to the residents of Meredith and our many volunteers for their continued strong support to our agency.

New Beginnings - A Women's Crisis Center

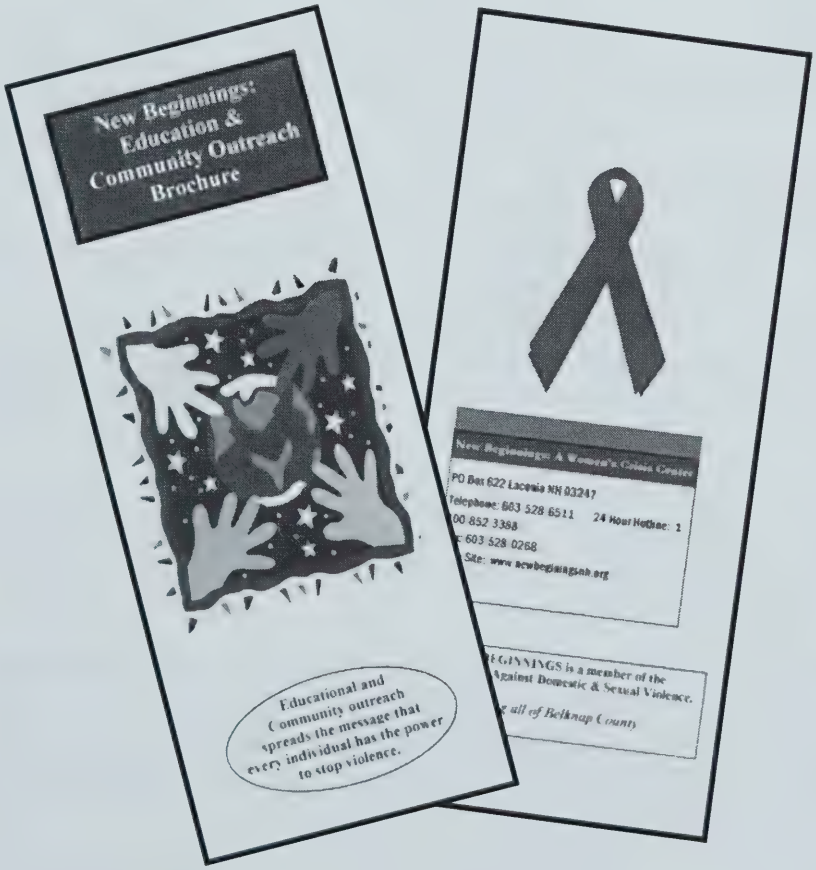
Kathy Keller, Executive Director

On behalf of New Beginnings – A Women's Crisis Center, I would like to thank the citizens of the Town of Meredith for their continued support. Your 2003 allocation, of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($1,500.00), has enabled us to continue to provide 24-hour crisis support, outreach, and assistance to victims of domestic and sexual assault in all of Belknap County.

Our organization operates a full-time shelter, staffs a 24-hour crisis line, provides advocacy at court, hospitals, and police stations, social service advocacy, and offers peer support groups for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We also run community and school based education programs. We are members of the Belknap County Family Violence Prevention Forum, a task force made up of community members and professionals initiated by the Governor's Commission to take a stand against domestic and sexual violence in our county.

New Beginnings had advocates and staff in Belknap County courts each working day of this budget year. New Beginnings volunteers donated over 16,000 service hours. All services are provided free of charge.

We are members of the statewide NH Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, promoting statewide networking and resource sharing among domestic violence and sexual assault programs. The coalition is the evaluating body and administrator of state and federal contracts that provide some funding for member programs and advocates for legislative change that affects victims of domestic and sexual assault.



New Hampshire Humane Society

Claudia Abdinoor, Executive Director

The New Hampshire Humane Society (NHHS) provides numerous services to the residents and companion animals in the Town of Meredith. Strays are safely housed for 7 days (cats, 3 days) prior to becoming available for adoption to the public. NHHS takes in owner- relinquished pets by appointment and matches the animal with the best adoptive home. Our animals are not euthanized for reasons of space or time. We offer the residents of your town an alternative to releasing their animal to the streets when they can no longer care for them. Quarantine facilities are made available to the town as well as animal cruelty investigation. Educational programs are offered to town schools and civic organizations. If you are interested in any of the programs, please call the administrative offices at (603) 524-8236 or contact the shelter at (603) 524-3252.

The total number of animals brought to the New Hampshire Humane Society from your Town during 2003 (to 12/09/03) is as follows:

Stray Animals from:	**Town of Meredith**	**Owner Surrendered**
Dogs & Puppies	29	9
Cats & Kittens	40	21
Other Animals	1	0
Deceased	2	0
Total received	72	30

Total number of all animals received during 2003 = 102

Winnipesaukee Wellness Center

James Wallace, Meredith Representative and Vice Chairman, Advisory Committee

Winnipesaukee Wellness Center is located at 80 Bean Road in Moultonborough near the Center Harbor town line. Area residents, with physician approval, receive medical consultation, education and supervised exercise by a competent staff. The center is now open from 6 am until 4 pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The permanent staff consists of one Registered Nurse with specialized training and one exercise specialist. The staff is augmented as needed by personnel from LRGHealthcare. Cholesterol testing, blood sugar screening and clinics on breathing, diabetes, eating disorders and diet are offered on a regular basis. The popular foot clinic is held weekly.

Active Meredith residents enrolled averaged 29, of which 3 were granted full scholarships. The monthly fee is $40 for the initial family member and $20 for the second. No one is turned away because of inability to pay. This fee is discounted as much as 20% with advance payment, which minimizes administrative costs. Financial support comes from Meredith, Center Harbor, Moultonborough and Sandwich, individual gifts. LRGHealthcare covers the remaining deficits.

Town of Meredith ~ Births

Date	Child's Name	Father's Name	Mother's Name
01/15/2003	Hentz, Maxwell Nelson	Hentz, Douglas	Hentz, Elizabeth
01/27/2003	Gianunzio, Matthew Peter	Gianunzio, Peter	Gianunzio, Pauline
01/31/2003	Donahue, Owen Timothy	Donahue, John	Donahue, Heather
02/07/2003	Campbell, Alicia Helen	Campbell, Charles	Campbell, Pamela
02/19/2003	Wilson, Pacey Ryun	Wilson, Jacob	Wilson, Angela
02/24/2003	Gable, Kyle Allen	Gable, Allen	Gable, Cherylyn
03/02/2003	Vaal, Devyn Elizabeth	Vaal, Bruce	Vaal, Janelle
03/10/2003	Gunning-Lavoie, Shayleah Sky	Lavoie, Raymond	Gunning, Evelyn
03/24/2003	Caswell, Brett Jeffrey	Caswell, Clay	Caswell, Kimberly
03/26/2003	Miller, Elijah Paul	Miller, Randy	Miller, Jennifer
04/14/2003	Jordan, Lydia Corrine	Jordan, Braden	Jordan, Breinn
04/17/2003	Bourgeois, Hayden Joseph	Bourgeois, Michael	Gnerre-Bourgeois, Julie
04/20/2003	Weeks, Emily Paige	Weeks, Gary	Weeks, Melissa
04/21/2003	Brown, Maia Katherine	Brown, Philip	Brown, Michelle
04/21/2003	Brown, Amelia Judith	Brown, Philip	Brown, Michelle
04/21/2003	Harding, Eleanor Elizabeth	Harding, Jeffrey	Harding, Nicole
04/29/2003	Murray, Blake Bennett	Murray, James	Murray, Heidi
05/09/2003	Richardson, Emma Lindsey	Richardson, Mitchell	Richardson, Mary
05/21/2003	Duffield, Charles Marcus	Duffield, John	Duffield, Allison
06/04/2003	Woodaman, Jessica Elizabeth	Woodaman, John	Woodaman, Sivi
06/04/2003	Woodaman, Jaime Lynn	Woodaman, John	Woodaman, Sivi
06/25/2003	Davis, Samantha Holbrook	Davis, Brian	Davis, Jennifer
06/30/2003	Levesque, Jordan Eleanor	Levesque, David	Levesque, Tammy
07/09/2003	Harper, Rylee Andrew	Harper, Jerry	Harper, Andrea
07/11/2003	Smith, Cole Jadon	Smith, Timothy	Smith, Cassandra
07/14/2003	Kuczkowski, Casey Thomas	Kuczkowski, Adam	Kuczkowski, Pamela
07/28/2003	Leighton, Joshua Christopher	Leighton, Christopher	Leighton, Lisa
08/04/2003	Cillo, Thomas Angelo	Cillo, Antonio	Cillo, Kerry
08/06/2003	Foster, Dillon Thomas	Foster, Christopher	Foster, Heather
08/09/2003	Sullivan, Jessica Paige	Sullivan, Richard	Sullivan, Melissa
08/22/2003	Marion, Matthew William	Marion, George	Marion, Christina
09/02/2003	Flanders, Melody Danielle	Flanders, Mark	Flanders, Nicole
09/05/2003	Flanders, Andrew Santiago	Flanders, Brian	Flanders, Mariluz
09/17/2003	Carpentiere, Anna Finneran	Carpentiere, David	Carpentiere, Tami
10/28/2003	Lazazzera, Alexa Caroline	Lazazzera, Mark	Lazazzera, Samantha
11/07/2003	Boynton, Riley Daniel	Boynton, Daniel	Marino-Boynton, Angela
11/10/2003	McMath, Noah Jackson	McMath, Justin	McMath, Jill
11/13/2003	Alexander, Emma June	Alexander, Ryan	Alexander, Sarah
11/17/2003	Potter, Noah Lee	Potter, Gerald	Potter, Jodi
11/29/2003	Cafarella, Jenna Elise	Cafarella, Donald	Cafarella, Lisa
12/20/2003	Folsom, Kyleigh Hope	Folsom, Allen	Folsom, Cynthia
12/30/2003	Chamberlain, Saige Riley	Chamberlain, Stuart	Chamberlain, Abigail

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages

Date	Groom's Name	Groom's Residency	Bride's Name	Bride's Residency
01/08/2003	Clifford J. Hughes	Meredith, NH	Grace F. Osgood	Meredith, NH
01/31/2003	John R. Turner	Meredith, NH	Donna I. Jutras	Meredith, NH
02/01/2003	John P. Connolly	Meredith, NH	Martha J. Werdin	Meredith, NH
02/14/2003	Greg A. Conway	Meredith, NH	Patricia A. Carlsen	Meredith, NH
03/07/2003	Lucas C. Carter	Meredith, NH	Paige J. Burns	Meredith, NH
03/08/2003	Mark F. Manter	Meredith, NH	Becky L. Hurd	Meredith, NH
03/15/2003	Jean M. Smith	Meredith, NH	Gina G. Rosset	Meredith, NH
03/22/2003	Robert E. McDaniel	Meredith, NH	Laurie J. Woodaman	Meredith, NH
04/25/2003	Stanley W. Whitney	Laconia, NH	Beverly A. Williams	Meredith, NH
05/03/2003	David M. O'Brien	Meredith, NH	Kathryn R. Ambrose	Meredith, NH
05/07/2003	Abram T. Tappan	Belmont, NH	Erin H. Kang	Meredith, NH
05/10/2003	Philip S. Dyment	Meredith, NH	Michelle Roman	Meredith, NH
05/10/2003	Richard E. Veilleux	Meredith, NH	Bonnie J. Maguire	Meredith, NH
05/14/2003	Luey A. Clough	Mt Holly, VT	Ann E. Huckins	Meredith, NH
05/17/2003	Thomas M. Murphy Jr	Lawrence, MA	Jacqueline P. Pare	Lawrence, MA
05/31/2003	Mark D. Miller	Laconia, NH	Ainsley Wilmot	Laconia, NH
06/07/2003	Kenneth S. Brace	Belmont, NH	Melissa K. O'Connor	Belmont, NH
06/21/2003	Joseph Scattergood, III	Meredith, NH	Jane E. Richardson	Meredith, NH
06/23/2003	Wayne H. Sanborn	Meredith, NH	Davida R. Cook	Meredith, NH
06/29/2003	Michael E. Patten	Cornish, NH	Maria R. Provencher	Meredith, NH
07/02/2003	James M. Koonce	Meredith, NH	Cecilia J. Koonce	Meredith, NH
07/04/2003	Wayne M. Heiligmann	Meredith, NH	Maureen Pembroke	Meredith, NH
07/05/2003	Nigel A. Williamson	Meredith, NH	Joan W. Bryar	Moultonboro, NH
07/06/2003	Jonathon L. Snyder	Meredith, NH	Caroline N. Heffron	Meredith, NH
07/12/2003	Neville M. J. McMillan	Meredith, NH	Joann M. Nadeau	Meredith, NH
07/12/2003	Jeff P. Marchand	Randolph, MA	Janelle R. Brown	Randolph, MA
07/12/2003	Michael H. Raimo	Andover, MA	Stefanie K. Miller	Andover, MA
07/12/2003	Todd S. Watson	Meredith, NH	Stacey L. Cushing	Meredith, NH
07/14/2003	Stephen C. Poitrast	Hopkinton, MA	Lisa E. Labreche	Hopkinton, MA
07/19/2003	Roland E. Ladeau	Interlachen, FL	Florence E. Scott	Meredith, NH
07/19/2003	Maurice J. Terman	Falls Church, VA	Sigrid R. Watson	Cambridge, MA
07/20/2003	Mark L. Marceau, Sr.	Meredith, NH	Brenda J. Tatakes	Meredith, NH
07/26/2003	Mark S. Cresci	Meredith, NH	Lisa M. Stanton	Meredith, NH
07/26/2003	Alan W. Cushing Jr	Meredith, NH	Amanda G. Carey	Meredith, NH
07/26/2003	Douglas J. Rouse	Meredith, NH	Eva M. Suitter	Meredith, NH
07/26/2003	Barry W. Downing	Meredith, NH	Katherine M. Smith	Meredith, NH
07/27/2003	Daryl E. Gove	Meredith, NH	Emily E. Russell	Everett, MA
07/31/2003	Joel R. Muzzey	Encinitas, CA	Vivian M. Price	Encinitas, CA
08/06/2003	Curtis S. Dyer	Lansing, MI	Audrey E. Gale	Lansing, MI
08/09/2003	Peter B. Shanley	Silver Springs, MD	Samantha S. Hubbard	Silver Springs, MD
08/15/2003	Robyn C. Nason	Phoenix, AZ	Nancy A. Cox	Phoenix, AZ
08/16/2003	Frank J. Gioia	Revere, MA	Cristen M. Coleman	Stoneham, MA
08/16/2003	Michael J. Sadowski	Concord, NH	Jennifer L. Rollins	Concord, NH

Town of Meredith ~ Marriages continued

Date	Groom's Name	Groom's Residency	Bride's Name	Bride's Residency
08/17/2003	Raymond P. Zolton	Portsmouth, NH	Pamela S. Greene	Portsmouth, NH
08/20/2003	David S. Mernick	Oceanport, NJ	Cynthia E. Blinebry	Oceanport, NJ
08/23/2003	Stephen J. Wright	South Yarmouth, MA	Debra J. Macphail	South Yarmouth, MA
08/23/2003	Joshua D. Mezrich	Chicago, IL	Margaret L. Schwarze	Chicago, IL
08/23/2003	Michael K. Levesque	Manchester, NH	Krista L. Tracey	Meredith, NH
08/23/2003	Glenn N. Madon	Meredith, NH	Penelope L. York	Meredith, NH
08/31/2003	James R. Albany Jr.	Birmingham, AL	Miranda S. Stamps	Newton, MA
09/06/2003	Jonathon L. Snyder	Meredith, NH	Caroline N. Heffron	Meredith, NH
09/13/2003	Gardner M. deVos	Somerville, MA	Rachel A. Dolmatch	Somerville, MA
09/13/2003	Luis J. Hernandez	Newton, MA	Belinda A. Brady	Newton, MA
09/16/2003	Vincent J. Rubbe	Meredith, NH	Susan M. Cegelski	Meredith, NH
09/20/2003	Michael H. Boothby	Royal Oak, MI	Ann E. Ranelle	Royal Oak, MI
09/20/2003	Troy M. Holmes	Center Harbor, NH	Christine L. Bartlett	Center Harbor, NH
09/27/2003	Timothy J. Gibson	Concord, MA	Bethany L. Mattison	Concord, Ma
09/27/2003	Daniel A. Tilton	Dracut, MA	Shannon M. McManus	Dracut, Ma
09/27/2003	Michael S. Sleeper	Meredith, NH	Allison Jo Connolly	Meredith, NH
10/02/2003	Frederick L. Donahoe	Tallahassee, FL	Judith A. Curland	Tallahassee, FL
10/04/2003	Jeffrey D. McAllister	Meredith, NH	Joanne M. Hania	Meredith, NH
10/04/2003	David A. Jordan	Meredith, NH	Carrie J. Morse	Meredith, NH
10/17/2003	Benjamin E. Clermont	Meredith, NH	Kirsten B. Cronemiller	Meredith, NH
10/18/2003	Michael L. Cole	Meredith, NH	Karen M. Sanborn	Concord, NH
10/18/2003	Kelly S. Marchek	Meredith, NH	Diane L. Boynton	Meredith, NH
10/18/2003	Earl E. Westover	Meredith, NH	Lisa L. Rowley	Meredith, NH
10/19/2003	Peter G. Mayhew	Laconia, NH	Kelley J. Moulton	Holderness, NH
10/25/2003	John H. Whynot Jr	Meredith, NH	Alison B. Perreault	Meredith, NH
10/25/2003	Timothy M. Staples	Meredith, NH	Roberta F. Nason	Meredith, NH
11/08/2003	Christian T. Morch	Fort Collins, CO	Summer Hirschfield	Meredith, NH
11/13/2003	Catalin V. Hategan	Meredith, NH	Darcie J. Shedd	Meredith, NH
11/16/2003	Samuel M. Verrill	Meredith, NH	Kimberly A. Karr	Meredith, NH
11/28/2003	Barry M. Whalen	Meredith, NH	Jessie L. Manita	Meredith, NH
12/05/2003	Mark A. Bickford	Laconia, NH	Cynthia M. Thurston	Meredith, NH
12/06/2003	Julio A. Herrera	Meredith, NH	Maritza A. Jimenez	Meredith, NH
12/18/2003	Phares M. Huelar	Meredith, NH	Mary J. Mayang	Meredith, NH
12/21/2003	Robert E. Murdough	Keene, NH	Mary E. Dunleavy	Meredith, NH
12/21/2003	Albert J. Ducharme	Meredith, NH	Donna M. Ireland	Meredith, NH
12/21/2003	Christopher M. Fitts	Meredith, NH	Jennifer A. Vachon	Meredith, NH
12/24/2003	Thomas Boucher	Meredith, NH	Jennifer L. Moyer	Meredith, NH
12/30/2003	Christopher R. Rice	Meredith, NH	Amanda M. Baker	Meredith, NH
12/30/2003	Gerald J. Marand	Webster, MA	Rae J. Williams	Webster, MA

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials

Date	Name	Place of Death	Name of Father	Name of Mother
1/3/2003	Morabito, Gladys M.	Meredith, NH	Bishop, Horace W.	Whitman, Helen I.
1/6/2003	White, Iona F.	Meredith, NH	Foster, Walter N.	Nicols, Leona
1/9/2003	Bowser, Laurel	Meredith, NH	Bowser, Frank	Denicourt, Kathryn
1/9/2003	Moses, Anna E.	Meredith, NH	Collin, Robert	Lueders, Mildred
1/11/2003	Leach, Dorothy E.	Meredith, NH	Weld, Max	Tappan, Myra
1/16/2003	Beckley, Ralph W.	Laconia, NH	Beckley, Ralph	Bogel, Kathryn
1/16/2003	Zapora, Jennie	Meredith, NH	Legenc, Martin	Bara, Maryanna
1/22/2003	Luneau, Aline A.	Meredith, NH	Luneau, Luc	Provencher, Zerilda M.
1/25/2003	Rockwell, Evelyn R.	Meredith, NH	Pray, Norman C.	Sweatt, Marjorie D.
2/8/2003	Brothers, Joanne J.	Meredith, NH	Jones, Clifford B.	Hill, Beryl M.
2/9/2003	Hindersinn,Kenneth	Meredith, NH	Hindersinn, Richard	Aust, Rosalia
2/14/2003	Stoye, Erica L.	Laconia, NH	Rudolf, Johann	Friedrich, Kardina
2/18/2003	Cummings, Madonna L.	Laconia, NH	Brown, Cliff	Ballou, Florence
2/20/2003	Lynch, John J.	Laconia, NH	Lynch, Edward	Fortin, Cora
2/21/2003	Austin, Dorothy W.	Laconia, NH	Whitmore, Austin	Trull, Grace
2/24/2003	Parker, Winona G.	Meredith, NH	Ackerman, Oscar F.	Cloutman, Louise J.
3/3/2003	McDonald, Louise B.	Meredith, NH	Metcalf, Harold E.	Galusha, Bernice L.
3/4/2003	James, Frederic Jr.	Meredith, NH	James, Frederic Sr.	Reed, Lauretta I.
3/6/2003	Gillis, Raymond A.	Laconia, NH	Gillis, Raymond	Schofield, Dorothy
3/6/2003	Hood, Mildred J.	Meredith, NH	Harris, Hugh	Mac Kay, Margaret
3/12/2003	Miller, Robert E.	Meredith, NH	Miller, Henry	Dunner, Helen
3/14/2003	Costello,Thomas P. III	Meredith, NH	Costello, Thomas P. II	Goode, Lillian
3/20/2003	Hayward, Arlene E.	Meredith, NH	Tucker, Harold	Hoyt, Grace
3/24/2003	Clark, Clifford V.	Meredith, NH	Clark, Victor	Wheeler, Ruth
3/28/2003	Short, Helen A.	Meredith, NH	Ahrens, Alfred J.	Hardy, Maude
3/29/2003	Burke, Bryn J.	Laconia, NH	Christie, William	Lenzen, Evelyn
3/29/2003	Briggs, David G.	Laconia, NH	Briggs, Ralph	Babcock, Frances
4/4/2003	Caramanica, Mary	Meredith, NH	Crear, Felice	Bocchiccio, Maria
4/6/2003	Cribbie, Ronald J.	Laconia, NH	Cribbie, Percy	Bowman, Helen
4/11/2003	Judkins, Beatrice A.	Laconia, NH	Judkins, Milo	Lamere, Carrie
4/15/2003	Miller, Thelma B.	Meredith, NH	Clow, Frank W.	Girard, Rose
4/17/2003	George, Hazel C.	Meredith, NH	Cochran, Clarence	Haggerty, Mary Ann
4/17/2003	Boyd, Beulah M.	Meredith, NH	Boyd, Ivan	Sanborn, Mabel
4/25/2003	Wallace, Scott E.	Laconia, NH	Wallace, Gerald	Clifford, Sylvia
4/25/2003	Doell, Charles H.	Meredith, NH	Doell, Charles J.	Nastard, Barbara
4/25/2003	Poore, Janet C.	Meredith, NH	Cannon, James	Belyea, Janet
4/26/2003	Hickey, Frederick L.	Meredith, NH	Hickey, John	Weir, Edith
4/28/2003	Hodgdon, Elizabeth F.	Meredith, NH	Shaughessy, John T.	O'Neil, Mary
5/10/2003	Olson, Anna C.	Barrington, NH	Larson, Charles	Bengston, Millie
5/15/2003	Humiston, Jennie L.	Laconia, NH	Beach, Perley	Harvey, Viola
5/17/2003	Dixon, William R.	Meredith, NH	Dixon, Roscoe	McNamara, Mary
6/11/2003	Lang, Kenneth E.	Franklin, NH	Lang, Charles	Roberts, Emma
6/23/2003	Johnson, Mitchell	Manchester, NH	Johnson, Mitchell	Walworth, Margaret
6/27/2003	Fleming, Frederick S.	Laconia, NH	Fleming, Frederick	Wood, Christina

Town of Meredith ~ Deaths and Burials continued

Date	Name	Place of Death	Name of Father	Name of Mother
7/3/2003	Beaumont, Stephen D.	Laconia, NH	Beaumont, Paul	Hurlin, Jane
7/8/2003	Haskell, William	Meredith, NH	Haskell, Harold	Keane, Margaret
7/8/2003	Kershaw, Leo	Laconia, NH	Kershaw, Thomas	McDonough, Mary
7/15/2003	Owens, Edna W.	Meredith, NH	Campbell, Christian	Watson, Jennie
7/17/2003	Burleigh, Robert T.	Meredith, NH	Burleigh, Harry	Hordley, Winifred
7/17/2003	Ferguson, Duncan M.	Meredith, NH	Ferguson, Daniel	Seaman, Ruth
7/19/2003	Weeks, Alice V.	Meredith, NH	Smith, Charles	UNKNOWN, Alice
7/22/2003	Scalera, Frank J.	Meredith, NH	Scalera, Joseph	UNKNOWN, Grace
7/27/2003	Allen, Violet E.	Meredith, NH	LaReau, David	McLure, Mary
7/28/2003	Hamblet, William P.	Laconia, NH	Hamblet, William	Prentiss, Blanche
8/1/2003	McLoud, Martha A.	Meredith, NH	Kimball, John	Wilson, Martha
8/5/2003	Adams, Janice U.	Meredith, NH	Thompson, Allen	Middleton, Virginia
8/16/2003	Arnold, Dwight C.	Meredith, NH	Arnold, Carlton	Hunt, Eleanor
8/24/2003	Norris, Muriel V.	Meredith, NH	Barnes, James	Latousan, Marguerite
8/30/2003	Hennen, Louise C.	Laconia, NH	Carney, George	Dee, Selina
9/1/2003	Ritchie, James F.	Laconia, NH	Ritchie, William	Wood, Virginia
9/9/2003	Stevens, Susanne A.	Laconia, NH	Faulkner, Seymour	Wolf, Alice
9/9/2003	Cote, Erving	Laconia, NH	Cote, Fred	Main, Eva
9/9/2003	Taylor, James L.	Meredith, NH	Taylor, Gerald	Hughes, Elizabeth
9/23/2003	Cooney, Gladys A.	Meredith, NH	Nelson, Jacob	Wakefield, Lanora
9/28/2003	Chase, Marion M.	Meredith, NH	Watson, Peter	Stoddard, Alice
9/28/2003	Gardner, Elizabeth M.	Meredith, NH	Snook, Joseph	Snow, Blanche
10/10/2003	Hartson, Harriet L.	Laconia, NH	Graham, Clayton	Huey, Edith
10/11/2003	Bowley, Audrey A.	Meredith, NH	Robbins, Leland	Batchelder, Gladys
10/14/2003	Wyatt, Irene A.	Meredith, NH	Maheux, William	Gosselin, Eva
10/17/2003	Pinckney, Norman A.	Meredith, NH	Pinckney, Jay	Wetherell, Nellie
10/24/2003	Sprague, Lloyd F.	Laconia, NH	Sprague, V.	Johnson, Evelyn
10/25/2003	Nelson, Donna F.	Laconia, NH	Buck, Charles	Weeks, Evelyn
10/31/2003	Jones, Elena M.	Meredith, NH	Rizzo, Domenico	Vercellone, Felicita
11/8/2003	Cromey, Margaret L.	Meredith, NH	Dunnet, James	Miller, Ritie
11/16/2003	Corbeil, Theresa	Laconia, NH	Corbeil, Azarias	Gregoire, Beatrice
11/21/2003	O'Connor, John F.	Meredith, NH	O'Connor, John	Verkampen, Louise
12/17/2003	Huckins, Frances D.	Meredith, NH	Durell, Fred	Burley, Lillian
12/19/2003	Slingsby, Richard O.	Laconia, NH	Slingsby, Alton	Culliney, Josephine
12/27/2003	Thomson, William M.	Meredith, NH	Thomson, Dr. William	Unlnown, Unknown
12/29/2003	Gamsby, Richard C.	Meredith, NH	Gamsby, Albert	Barber, Flora

PLODZIK & SANDERSON

Professional Association/Accountants & Auditors

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager
Town of Meredith
Meredith, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith, New Hampshire as of and for the year ended December 31, 2002 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Meredith has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Meredith as of December 31, 2002, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated June 11, 2003 on our consideration of the Town of Meredith's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Town of Meredith
Independent Auditor's Report

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Meredith. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements. All such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

June 11, 2003

PLODZIK & SANDERSON
Professional Association

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups

ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Group	
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
Assets						
Cash & Equivalents	$ 7,221,244	$ 931,042	$ 302,599	$ 3,016,770		$ 11,471,655
Investments	1,130,485			193,251		1,323,736
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)						
Interest						-
Taxes	867,279					867,279
Accounts	72,629	236,143		447,095		755,867
Special Assessments-Current	193,294					193,294
Special Assessments-Noncurrent	239,590					239,590
Other	93,333					93,333
Interfund Receivable	19,427	1,850				21,277
Intergovernmental Receivable						-
Statutory Tax Liens Receivable	85,397					85,397
Statutory Tax Liens Reserved Until Collected	(85,397)					(85,397)
Prepaid Items						-
Other Debits						
Amount to be provided for Retirement of General Long-Term Debt					4,592,716	4,592,716
TOTAL ASSETS & OTHER DEBITS	$ 9,837,282	$ 1,169,035	$ 302,599	$ 3,657,116	$ 4,592,716	$ 19,558,748

Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Account Groups

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Group	
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust and Agency	General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
Liabilities						
Accounts Payable	$ 35,434	$ 1,487	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 36,921
Retainage Payable			140,021			140,021
Intergovernmental Payable	5,209,866					5,209,866
Interfund Payable	1,850		(8,730)			(6,880)
Escrow & Performance Deposits	56,237			33,456		89,693
Deferred Revenue	233,481	15,139				248,620
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable				447,095		447,095
General Obligation Debt Payable					4,294,815	4,294,815
Capital Leases Payable						-
Compensated Absences Payable					297,901	297,901
TOTAL LIABILITIES	$ 5,536,867	$ 16,626	$ 131,291	$ 480,551	$ 4,592,716	$ 10,758,052
EQUITY						
Fund Balances						
Reserved for Endowments	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Reserved for Encumbrances	1,070,217	72,664				1,142,881
Reserved for Special Purposes	401,055	252,319	$ 171,307	3,176,565		4,001,246
Unreserved						
Designated for Special Purposes		827,425				827,425
Undesignated (Deficit)	2,829,143					2,829,143
TOTAL EQUITY	4,300,415	1,152,408	171,307	3,176,565		8,800,696
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	$ 9,837,282	$ 1,169,035	$ 302,599	$ 3,657,116	$ 4,592,716	$ 19,558,748

Special Revenue Funds ~ Combining Balance Sheets

	Public Library	Conservation Commission	D.A.R.E. Program	Cable Franchise Fee	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Total
ASSETS							
Cash & Equivalents	$ 16,140	$ 90,324		$ 89,016	$ 244,229	$ 491,333	$ 931,042
Receivables (Net of Allowances for Uncollectibles)							
Accounts				42,299	69,943	123,901	236,143
Interfund Receivable			1,850				1,850
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 16,140	$ 90,324	$ 1,850	$ 131,315	$ 314,172	$ 615,235	$1,169,035
LIABILITIES & EQUITY							
Liabilities							
Accounts Payable					$ 358	$ 1,130	$ 1,487
Due to General Fund							
Deferred Revenue-Access Fees					11,809	3,330	15,139
TOTAL LIABILITIES					12,167	4,460	16,626
Equity							
Fund Balances							
Reserved for Encumbrances					12,322	60,342	72,664
Reserved for Special Purposes					119,086	133,233	252,319
Unreserved							
Designated for Special Purposes	16,140	90,324	1,850	131,315	170,596	417,200	827,425
TOTAL EQUITY	16,140	90,324	1,850	131,315	302,005	610,775	1,152,408
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	$ 16,140	$ 90,324	$ 1,850	$ 131,315	$ 314,172	$ 615,235	$1,169,035

Capital Project Funds ~ Combining Balance Sheets

	Capital Equipment and Improvements	Athletic Fields and Tennis Court Prescott Park	Plymouth St. Route 3 N. Water/Sewer Improvements	Community Center	Landfill Closure	Total
ASSETS						
Cash & Equivalents	$ 423	$ 63,094	$ 247,812	$ (5,720)	$ (3,010)	$ 302,599
Interfund Receivable						-
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 423	$ 63,094	$ 247,812	$ (5,720)	$ (3,010)	$ 302,599
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities						
Accounts Payable						$ -
Due to General Fund				(5,720)	(3,010)	(8,730)
Retainage Payable			140,021			140,021
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	140,021	(5,720)	(3,010)	131,292
Fund Balances						
Reserve for Encumbrances						$ -
Reserve for Special Purposes	423	63,094	107,791			171,307
Unreserved						-
Undesignated (Deficit)						-
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	423	63,094	107,791	-	-	171,307
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	$ 423	$ 63,094	$ 247,812	$ (5,720)	$ (3,010)	$ 302,599

Trust and Agency Funds ~ Combining Balance Sheets

	Trust Funds					
	Expendable			Nonexpendable		
ASSETS	Library	Capital Reserve	Others	Town	Agency Funds	Totals
Cash & Equivalents	$ 7,630	$209,872	$2,748,456	$ 17,356	$ 33,456	$ 3,016,770
Investments	107,632			85,619		193,251
Receivables						
Interest						-
Accounts					447,095	447,095
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 115,262	$209,872	$2,748,456	$ 102,975	$ 480,551	$ 3,657,116
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES						
Liabilities						
Interfund Payable						-
Escrow and Performance Deposits					33,456	33,456
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable					447,095	447,095
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-	480,551	480,551
Fund Balances						
Reserved For Endowments						-
Reserved For Special Purposes	115,262	209,872	2,748,456	102,975		3,176,565
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	115,262	209,872	2,748,456	102,975		3,176,565
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	$ 115,262	$209,872	$2,748,456	$ 102,975	$ 480,551	$ 3,657,116

Agency Funds - Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities

Developers' Performance Bond Fund	Balance 1/1/2003	Additions	Deductions	Balance 12/31/2003
Assets:				
Cash & Equivalents	$ 22,255	$ 23,446	$ 12,244	$ 33,456
Liabilities:				
Escrow and Performance Deposits	$ 22,255	$ 23,446	$ 12,244	$ 33,456
ICMA Deferred Compensation Plan				
Assets:				
Due From Others	$ 439,524	$ 71,323	$ 63,753	$ 447,095
Liabilities:				
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	$ 439,524	$ 71,323	$ 63,753	$ 447,095
TOTAL - ALL AGENCY FUNDS				
Cash & Equivalents	$ 22,255	$ 23,446	$ 12,244	$ 33,456
Due From Others	439,524	71,323	63,753	447,095
Total Assets	$ 461,779	$ 94,769	$ 75,997	$ 480,551
Escrow and Performance Deposits	22,255	23,446	12,244	33,456
Deferred Compensation Benefits Payable	439,524	71,323	63,753	447,095
Total Liabilities	$ 461,779	$ 94,769	$ 75,997	$ 480,551

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds

NON-EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	PURPOSE	Beginning Balance 1/1/2003	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2003
WWII Memorial	Upkeep	$ 2,219	$ -	$ -	$ 30	$ 2,249
Oakland Cemetery	Cemetery Care	6,775	-	-	89	6,864
Outlying Cemeteries	Cemetery Care	25,478	-	-	339	25,817
Town Cemetery	Cemetery Care	30,735	-	-	409	31,144
Ebon S. Roberts	Library	430	-	-	6	436
Edwin E. Beede	Library	99,019	-	1,401	1,312	98,930
Samuel W. Rollins	Library	6,703	-	-	89	6,792
J. Bennett/E. Swain	Library	990	-	-	13	1,003
William E. Bixby	Library	215	-	-	3	218
Hattie R. Erskine	Library Clock	249	-	-	3	253
George S. Fogg	School District	2,686	-	-	36	2,722
Town Cemetery	General	6,312	-	-	84	6,396
Caroline M. Swift	Cemetery Wreath	640	-	-	9	649
J. Beede Cemetery	Perpetual Care	9,650	-	-	128	9,778
		$ 192,102	$ -	$ 1,401	$ 2,549	$ 193,250

Report of the Trustees of Trust Funds continued

EXPENDABLE TRUSTS	PURPOSE	Beginning Balance 1/1/2003	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2003
Cemetery Maint.	Maintenance	$ 17,128	$ -	$ -	$ 228	$ 17,356
Library	Maintenance	7,530	-	-	100	7,630
Employee Benefits	Severance	93,261	25,000	-	1,279	119,540
Landfill Closure	Landfill Closure	90,946	-	18,136	1,208	74,018
Sand/Salt Storage	Construct Building	16,763	-	16,986	223	0
Municipal Building	Additional Space	391,571	50,000	-	5,217	446,788
Solid Waste	Replace Trailer	133,281	-	-	1,772	135,053
Fire Department	Conmmunications	942	-	-	12	954
Fire Department	Replace Vehicle	334,024	50,000	-	4,451	388,475
Municipal Technology	Software Upgrade	52,004	-	-	691	52,695
Open Space/Conservation	Conservation	50,929	50,000	35,470	685	66,144
Boardwalk Renovations	Replace Boardwalk	101,858	50,000	117,558	1,426	35,726
Community Center	Community Center	284,010	150,000	75,784	3,801	362,026
Downtown Parking	Additional Space	420,053	50,000	-	5,594	475,647
Cygnet Shores Pump Station	Sewer Pump Station	50,004	50,000	-	675	100,679
Property Assessment Maintenance	Assessing Maintenance	100,008	100,000	-	1,350	201,358
Public Safety Building/Land	Land and/or Building	-	250,000	-	49	250,049
Total Town Expendable Trusts:		2,144,312	825,000	263,935	28,761	2,734,137
School - SPED	Special Education	20,000	-	-	223	20,223
Ruth S. Briggs	Scholarships	23,322	-	4,500	260	19,082
Total All Expendable Trusts:		$ 2,187,634	$ 825,000	$ 268,435	$ 29,244	$,773,442

CAPITAL RESERVES	Beginning Balance 1/1/2003	Total Deposits	Total (Withdrawals)	Period Interest	Ending Balance 12/31/2003
Fire Truck	$ 4,437	$ -	$ -	$ 59	$ 4,496
Police	11,266	-	-	150	11,415
Water Department	31,341	-	-	417	31,757
Prescott Park Expansion	536,231	-	532,751	895	4,375
Total Town Capital Reserves	583,275	-	532,751	1,521	52,045
School Facilities Maintenance Fund	150,939	-	-	1,900	152,839
Inter-Lakes School District	4,923	-	-	65	4,989
Total All Capital Reserves	$ 739,137	$ -	$ 532,751	$ 3,486	$ 209,872

Long-Term Indebtedness

Long-term debt payable at December 31, 2003 is comprised of the following individual issues:

Description of Issue General Obligation Debt Payable	Original Amount	Issue Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate %	Outstanding at 12/31/03
1988 Sewer Extension Bonds	$ 603,200	1988	2008	5.750%	$ 199,242
1989 Library Improvement Bonds	$ 750,000	1989	2008	5.750%	$ 287,160
1988 Water System Improvement Bonds	$2,000,000	1988	2016	5.750%	$ 1,342,330
1994 Sewer Extension Bonds	$ 229,000	1994	2014	4.500%	$ 132,747
1998 Westbury Road Sewer Bonds	$ 55,000	1998	2013	4.750%	$ 45,558
1998 Wagon Wheel Sewer Bonds	$ 211,874	1998	2013	5.370%	$ 134,190
1999 Pleasant Street Sewer Bond	$1,400,000	1999	2014	4.750%	$ 926,954
2001 Neal Shore Sewer Bond	$ 200,000	2001	2011	3.870%	$ 131,650
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	$ 512,820	2002	2032	4.500%	$ 284,466
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	$ 435,950	2002	2032	4.625%	$ 195,127
2002 Plymouth Street/Route 3 North	$ 376,208	2002	2022	3.728%	$ 615,390
Total General Obligation Debt Payable - December 31, 2003					$ 4,294,815

Annual Requirements To Amortize General Obligation Debt:

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2003	Governmental Fund Debt		
	Principal	Interest	Total
2004	$ 378,330	$ 224,273	$ 602,603
2005	400,170	208,519	$ 608,688
2006	427,816	183,912	$ 611,728
2007	447,827	129,504	$ 577,331
2008-2032	2,599,002	653,439	$ 3,252,441
Totals	$4,253,145	$1,399,646	$ 5,652,791

Compensated Absences Payable	
Vacation and Sick Leave Including Benefits	$ 297,901

Comparative Statement of Revenues ~ General Fund

	Estimated	Actual	Over (Under) Budget
Taxes			
Property	$ 17,732,060	$ 17,748,487	$ 16,427
Yield	15,000	12,187	(2,813)
Boat	43,500	44,346	846
Current Land Use Change Tax	-	10,680	10,680
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	85,000	102,226	17,226
Total Taxes	17,875,560	17,917,926	42,366
Licenses and Permits			
Motor Vehicle Permits	1,000,000	1,145,055	145,055
Building Permits	32,500	31,521	(979)
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	48,250	56,402	8,152
Total Licenses and Permits	1,080,750	1,232,978	152,228
Intergovernmental Revenues			
State/Federal			
Highway Block Grant	173,214	173,214	-
Shared Revenue	31,493	76,686	45,193
Rooms & Meals Tax	180,894	180,894	-
Water Pollution Grants	28,071	28,136	65
Filtration Grant	-	-	-
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	348	348	-
Other State/Federal Revenue	22,405	51,685	29,280
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	436,425	510,963	74,538
Charges for Services			
Income from Departments	589,795	664,682	74,887
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Town Property	-	10,237	10,237
Interest on Investments	60,000	62,248	2,248
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	68,000	76,793	8,793
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	128,000	149,277	21,277
Other Financing Sources			
Interfund Transfers			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	221,453	-
Trust Funds	-	134,544	134,544
Total Other Financing Sources	221,453	355,997	134,544
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To Reduce Tax Rate	500,000	500,000	-
Total Revenues, Other Financing Sources and Use of Fund Balance	$ 20,831,983	$ 21,331,824	$ 499,840

Comparative Statement of Appropriations and Expenditures - General Fund

	2002 Encumbered	2003 Appropriation	2003 Expended	2004 Encumbered	Balance (Overdrafts)
General Government					
Executive Office	$ 15,985	$ 153,052	$ 208,226	$ -	$ (39,189)
Executive - Municipal Administration	372,702	486,110	549,312	317,065	(7,565)
Personnel Administration	3,308	993,637	967,301	28,812	832
Town Clerk	1,769	105,521	97,500	5,534	4,256
Finance Department	6,200	200,468	194,751	4,810	7,107
Assessor	12,208	116,038	88,500	29,420	10,326
Tax Collector	750	52,794	51,988	-	1,556
Planning and Zoning	2,993	221,118	196,756	20,343	7,012
Regional Associations	2,500	140,178	138,258	4,420	-
Public Safety					
Police	12,642	1,082,839	1,079,308	10,864	5,309
Ambulance	-	204,750	204,612	-	138
Fire	19,669	200,324	154,884	54,175	10,935
Public Works					
Solid Waste Disposal	-	707,301	671,818	34,520	963
Building & Grounds	4,800	279,207	262,015	50,155	(28,163)
Highway Department	250,315	1,603,954	1,495,581	339,334	19,354
Cemetary	2,500	69,136	59,565	7,450	4,621
Water Distribution					
Hydrant Rental	-	69,000	69,000	-	-
Health					
Health Agencies	-	49,719	49,719	-	-
Welfare					
General Assistance	-	35,500	38,649	-	(3,149)
Culture and Recreation					
Parks and Recreation	13,245	226,822	208,991	10,200	20,876
Library	-	383,951	358,454	7,141	18,356
Economic Development					
Economic Development	17,000	29,000	2,500	23,225	20,275
Debt Service					
Principal - Long-Term Debt		400,240	400,240		-
Interest - Long-Term Debt		210,597	209,867		730
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes		-	-		-
Intergovernmental					
School Appropriation		9,824,375	9,824,375		-
County Appropriation		1,676,605	1,676,605		-
Other Financing Uses - Interfund Transfers					
Conservation Commission		16,695	16,263		432
Capital Projects		152,750	34,579	122,750	(4,579)
Expendable Trust Funds		825,000	825,000		-
Total Appropriations, Expenditures, and Encumbrances	$ 738,585	$ 20,516,681	$ 20,134,616	$ 1,070,217	$ 50,433

Statement of Changes in Unreserved - Undesignated Fund Balance General Fund

Fiscal Year 2003		
Unreserved - Undesignated		
Fund Balance - January 1		$ 2,778,870
Deductions		
Unreserved Fund Balance Used		
To Reduce 2003 Tax Rate		(500,000)
Subtotal		$ 2,278,870
Additions		
2003 Budget Summary		
Revenue Surplus (Unaudited)	$ 499,840	
Unexpended Balance of		
Appropriations (Unaudited)	50,433	
2003 Budget Surplus		550,273
Unreserved - Undesignated		
Fund Balance - December 31 (Unaudited)		$ 2,829,143

Fiscal Year 2004 - Worksheet	
Unreserved - Undesignated	
Fund Balance - January 1, 2004 (Unaudited)	$ 2,829,143
Deductions	
Purchase of Land (2004 Warrant Article #16)	(500,000)
Unreserved Fund Balance Used	
To Reduce 2004 Tax Rate	(650,000)
Unreserved - Undesignated	
Fund Balance - January 1, 2003 (Unaudited)	$ 1,679,143

Treasurer's Account Summary

General Fund - Operating		
Balance 01/01/2003	5,206,000.52	
Receipts & Transfers	65,822,540.22	
Expenditures & Transfers	(63,800,303.57)	
Balance 12/31/2003		7,229,649.58
General Fund - Investments		
Balance 01/01/2003	1,111,707.63	
Receipts & Transfers	305,156.60	
Expenditures & Transfers	(284,363.80)	
Balance 12/31/2003		1,132,500.43
Water Department		
Balance 01/01/2003	217,845.43	
Receipts & Transfers	441,916.01	
Expenditures & Transfers	(415,532.13)	
Balance 12/31/2003		244,229.31
Sewer Department		
Balance 01/01/2003	371,539.94	
Receipts & Transfers	601,368.00	
Expenditures & Transfers	(481,575.03)	
Balance 12/31/2003		491,332.91
Cable Franchise	69,363.01	
Balance 01/01/2003	25,118.50	
Receipts & Transfers	(5,465.31)	
Expenditures & Transfers		89,016.20
Balance 12/31/2003		
Community Park		
Balance 01/01/2003	2,298.05	
Receipts & Transfers	1.72	
Expenditures & Transfers	-	
Balance 12/31/2003		2,299.77
Community Center		
Balance 01/01/2003	23,376.32	
Receipts & Transfers	67,262.59	
Expenditures & Transfers	(96,359.15)	
Balance 12/31/2003		(5,720.24)
Conservation Commission		
Balance 01/01/2003	43,494.54	
Receipts & Transfers	104,900.10	
Expenditures & Transfers	(58,070.88)	
Balance 12/31/2003		90,323.76

Treasurer's Account Summary continued

Pleasant Street		
Balance 01/01/2003	107,790.50	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	(107,790.50)	
Balance 12/31/2003		-
Municipal Improvements		
Balance 01/01/2003	2,973.30	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	(2,550.38)	
Balance 12/31/2003		422.92
Prescott Park		
Balance 01/01/2003	19,131.34	
Receipts & Transfers	61,812.13	
Expenditures & Transfers	(17,849.85)	
Balance 12/31/2003		63,093.62
Land Use Change Tax		
Balance 01/01/2003	10,680.00	
Receipts & Transfers	-	
Expenditures & Transfers	(10,680.00)	
Balance 12/31/2003		-
Landfill Closure		
Balance 01/01/2003	(9,748.16)	
Receipts & Transfers	18,230.16	
Expenditures & Transfers	(21,239.78)	
Balance 12/31/2003		(12,757.78)
Plymouth Street/Rte 3 North		
Balance 01/01/2003	34,412.36	
Receipts & Transfers	959,764.54	
Expenditures & Transfers	(718,906.67)	
Balance 12/31/2003		(275,270.23)
Engineering Funds/Retainage		
Balance 01/01/2003	22,255.31	
Receipts & Transfers	23,445.77	
Expenditures & Transfers	(12,318.98)	
Balance 12/31/2003		33,382.10
Balance All Funds 12/31/2003		9,633,042.81

Treasurer's Account Summary continued

Proof of Balance

Citizens Bank		
Accounts Payable Account	757,818.43	
Outstanding Checks	(734,963.27)	
Reconciled Balance		22,855.16
Meredith Village		
Operating Account	-	
Outstanding Checks	566,077.65	
Reconciled Balance		566,077.65
Bank of New Hampshire		
Certificate of Deposit	286,091.64	
		286,091.64
Meredith Village Savings Bank		
Payroll Account	12,402.19	
Outstanding Checks	(8,045.95)	
Reconciled Balance		4,356.24
Certificate of Deposit	846,408.79	
		846,408.79
Engineering Account	33,382.10	
Outstanding Checks	-	
Reconciled Balance		33,382.10
Community Park Account	2,299.77	
Outstanding Checks	-	
Reconciled Balance		2,299.77
Municipal Money Market Account	7,870,953.96	
		7,870,953.96
Baby Bicentennial Account #1	43.75	
Baby Bicentennial Account #2	43.75	
		87.50
Cash on Hand	530.00	
		530.00
Reconciled Balance 12/31/2003		9,633,042.81

Tax Collector's Summary of Warrants

Debits	2003	2002	2001
Uncollected Taxes 1-1-03			
Property Taxes		$ 1,062,465.25	
Betterment Assessments		22,896.36	
Land Use Change Tax			
Yield Taxes		1,375.61	2961.00
Water Rents		67,116.18	
Sewer Rents		120,242.87	
Taxes Committed to Collector			
Property Taxes	17,738,024.46	10,462.78	
Betterment Assessments	51,803.74		
Land Use Change Tax	6,000.00		
Yield Taxes		12,186.56	
Water Rents	301,951.46		
Sewer Rents	565,575.60		
Overpayments			
Property Taxes	68,499.46	677.87	
Yield Taxes			
Water Rents	29.00		
Sewer Rents	317.34	81.00	
Interest Collected			
Property Taxes	10,040.25	28,961.55	
Betterment Assessments	6.85	754.54	
Yield Taxes		133.99	422.00
Land Use Change Tax			
Water Rents	344.58	1,629.62	
Sewer Rents	700.48	2,728.45	
Total Debits	$ 18,743,293.22	$ 1,331,712.63	$ 3,383.00

Credits			
Remitted to Treasurer			
Property Taxes	$16,933,280.52	$ 1,071,013.35	
Betterment Assessments	35,152.46	22,896.36	
Land Use Change Tax	6,000.00		
Yield Taxes		13,205.31	2961.00
Water Rents	233,482.84	67,088.44	
Sewer Rents	436,230.53	120,289.67	
Interest	11,092.16	34,208.15	422.00
Abatements			
Property Taxes	5,964.05	2,592.55	
Betterment Assessments	1,014.92		
Water Rents	661.84	27.74	
Sewer Rents	5,761.60	34.20	
Uncollected Taxes 12-31-03			
Property Taxes	867,279.35	-	
Betterment Assessments	15,636.36	-	
Land Use Change Tax	-	-	
Yield Taxes	-	356.86	
Water Rents	67,835.78	-	
Sewer Rents	123,900.81	-	
Total Credits	$ 18,743,293.22	$ 1,331,712.63	$ 3,383.00

Tax Collector's Summary of Tax Liens

Debits	2002	2001	2000	Prior
Uncollected Liens 1-1-03		$ 158,680.68	$ 80,488.88	$ 7,044.53
Liens Executed During 2003	$ 298,801.71			
Interest after Lien	6,603.89	16,518.69	25,235.89	2,003.06
Redemption Costs	511.20	710.00	1,668.50	160.11
Total Debits	$ 305,916.80	$ 175,909.37	$ 107.393.27	$ 9,207.70
Credits				
Remitted to Treasurer				
Redemptions	$ 104,551.18	$ 77,027.08	$ 71,852.34	$ 3,494.30
Interest & Costs	7,115.09	17,228.69	26,904.39	2,163.17
Abatements	762.37			
Deeded to Town	194.10	263.23	244.45	
Uncollected Liens 12-31-03	193,294.06	81,390.37	8,392.09	3,550.23
Total Credits	$ 305,916.80	$ 175,909.37	$ 107.393.27	$ 9,207.70

Tax Collector's Report

The tax rate for the 2003 tax year decreased by 7.1%. This was due to an increase in the property tax base. Some of the increased value was from new construction but most was due to a town wide adjustment of property tax values which brings our assessed values closer to fair market value. Below is a comparison of the 2003 and 2002 tax rates which shows the decrease and the percentage change.

Taxing Entity	2003 Rate	2002 Rate	Change	% Change
Municipal	$5.74	$6.09	($0.35)	-5.75%
School (local)	$4.96	$4.72	$0.24	5.08%
School (statewide)	$4.01	$4.84	($0.83)	-17.15%
County	$1.52	$1.82	($0.30)	-16.48%
Total Rate and Change	**$16.23**	**$17.47**	**($1.24)**	**7.1%**

If you have concerns regarding the tax rate, please attend the Town and School meetings in March.

After April 1st, the Town accepts payments towards the 2004 property taxes. If you are delinquent in your tax payments, please contact Vikki Fogg, the Deputy Tax Collector, to make payment arrangements. Partial payments towards delinquent taxes reduce the amount of interest due and the burden to the taxpayer. You may wish to contact your mortgage holder and ask them about starting a tax escrow account.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Valerie (Vikki) Fogg, Deputy Tax Collector

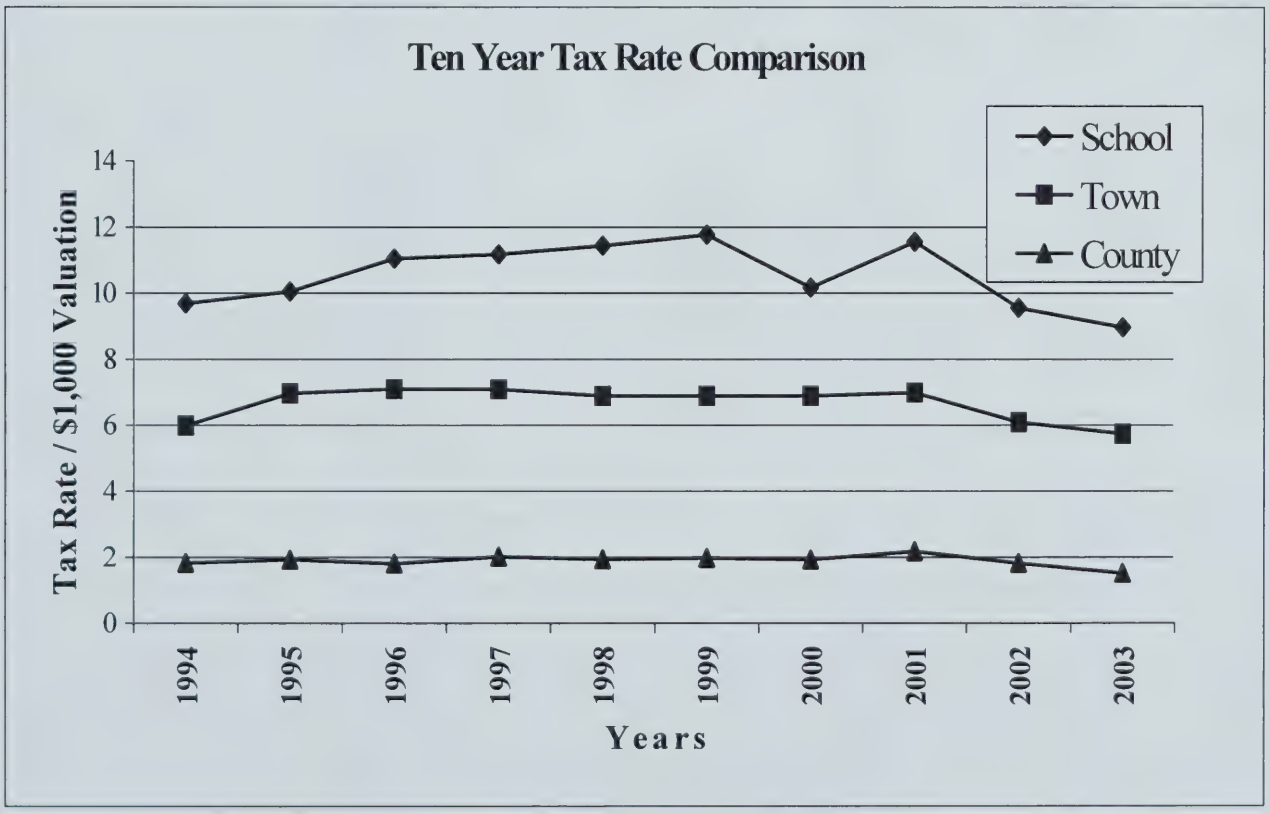
2003 Tax Rate Calculation

			2003 Tax Rates per $1,000 Valuation
Appropriations	$ 9,838,780		
Less: Revenues	3,965,255		
Less: Shared Revenues	36,312		
Add: Overlay	396,998		
War Service Credits	61,250		
Approved Town Tax Effort		6,295,461	
Municipal Tax Rate			**$ 5.74**
Due to Regional School	9,587,420		
Less: Adequate Education Grant	-		
Less: State Education Taxes	4,139,616		
Approved School Tax Effort		5,447,804	$ 4.96
State Education Taxes			
Equalized Valuation (No Utilities) X	4.92		
889,546,983		4,376,571	$ 4.01
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (No Utilities)			
1,092,075,621			
Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State			
School Tax Rate			**$ 8.97**
Due to County	1,676,605		
Less: Shared Revenue	8,881		
Approved County Tax Effort		1,667,724	
County Tax Rate			**$ 1.52**
Combined Tax Rate			$ 16.23
Total Property Taxes Assessed		17,787,560	
Less: War Service Credits		61,250	
Total Property Tax Commitment		$ 17,726,310	

		Tax Rate	Assessment
Net Assessed Valuation	$ 1,092,075,621	4.01	$ 4,376,571
State Education Taxes	$ 1,097,245,221	12.22	$ 13,410,989
Proof of Rate			$ 17,787,560

Ten-Year Tax Rate Comparison

Year	School	Town	County	Combined Tax Rate	Net Valuation
1994	9.69	5.99	1.83	17.51	591,943,189
1995	10.05	6.97	1.93	18.95	593,993,263
1996	11.05	7.10	1.81	19.96	575,967,000
1997	11.18	7.09	2.02	20.29	579,931,823
1998	11.44	6.89	1.94	20.27	589,261,949
1999	11.77	6.89	1.98	20.64	600,781,506
2000	10.17	6.89	1.93	18.99	692,241,498
2001	11.56	6.99	2.18	20.73	706,275,825
2002	9.56	6.09	1.82	17.47	911,814,837
2003	8.97	5.74	1.52	16.23	1,092,075,621



Summary of Town-Owned Property

Conservation/Recreation

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
R08-014	1.31	Meredith Center Road	Childs Park
R08-015	0.86	Meredith Center Road	Childs Park
R13-005	3.96	Lake Wickwas	Peninsula
R13-006	3.18	Lake Wickwas	Island
R13-007	5.34	Lake Wickwas	Island
R14-001	304.43	Chemung Road	Hamlin Town Forest
R14-028	2.04	Chemung Road	Pickering Park
R14-029	1.00	Chemung Road	Boat Launch, Pickering Park
R17-035	2.51	Chemung Road	Abuts Hamlin Town Forest
R17-036	5.12	Chemung Road	Abuts Hamlin Town Forest
R21-008	13.61	Lake Pemigewassett	Waterfront - Wetlands
R22-007	22.66	Tucker Mountain Road	Town Forest
R22-013	33.12	Nedeau Road	Town Forest
R23-004	93.21	Carleton Road	Leighton Wildlife Sanctuary
R31-020	38.05	Carleton Road	Town Forest
R32-001	49.08	Hermit Woods Road	Town Forest
R32-011	63.22	Carleton Road	Leighton Wildlife Sanctuary
S02-005	3.07	Beattie Road	Former tree nursery
S22-020	13.09	Parade Road	Waukewan Highlands Park
S22-022	176.13	Parade Road	Waukewan Highlands Park
U05-002	0.26	Waukewan Street	Boat Launch, Picnic Area
U06-031	7.64	High Street/Waukewan Ave	Swasey Park
U06-060	0.19	Main Street	Community Park
U07-121	0.37	Route 25	Scenic Park
U07-123	0.02	Route 25	Scenic Park, Indian Island
U07-126	0.31	Route 3	Hesky Park
U07-127	0.51	Route 3	Hesky Park
U10-031	14.42	Route 3 North	Prescott Park
U10-033	0.33	Route 3 North	Prescott Park
U10-035	0.70	Route 3 North	Wetlands, Hawkins Brook
U11-050A	1.83	Greenmore Road	Wetlands, Hawkins Brook
U14-001	21.42	Route 3 North	Prescott Park (New Fields)
U15-019A	0.26	Route 25/Pleasant Street	Clough Park
U39-058	21.19	Leavitt Park Road	Town Beach, Bathhouse, Bartlett Brook

Facilities

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
I02-021	0.08	Bear Island	Post Office, Dock
R08-047	0.24	Meredith Center Road	Fire Station
R08-048	0.95	Meredith Center Road	Fire Station
S15-008	28.19	Jenness Hill Road	DPW, Landfill, Snow Dump
S23-021	0.36	Reservoir Road	Pumping Station (Water Department)
U03-028A	0.21	Waukewan Street	Bathhouse, Sewer Pump Station
U03-030	0.38	Waukewan Street	Town Beach
U05-01A	0.07	Waukewan Street	Water Treatment Plant

Summary of Town-Owned Property continued

Facilities continued

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
U05-01B	0.54	Waukewan Street	Water Treatment Plant
U06-037	0.16	High Street	Parking Lot
U06-038	0.20	High Street	Parking Lot
U06-059	0.54	Main Street	Library
U06-063	0.13	Water Street	Parking Lot
U06-112	0.53	Route 3/Oak Street	Fire Station
U06-117A	0.07	Lang Street	Cemetery (historic)
U06-117C	0.25	Lang Street	Cemetery (historic)
U06-145	0.02	Route 3	Town Docks
U07-044	0.14	Main Street	Town Hall
U07-086A	0.02	Route 3/Plymouth Street	Utility Right-of-Way
U07-088	0.36	Route 3/Plymouth Street	Parking Lot (planned)
U07-107	0.17	Route 3 North	Sewer Pump Station
U07-108	1.10	Route 3 North	Parking Lot (adjacent to Aubuchon Hardware)
U10-017	0.35	Philbrook Avenue	Sewer Pump Station
U10-034	21.05	Route 3 North	Police Department, Prime Wetlands
U11-067	0.42	Kelly Lane	Fire Pond
U11-071	16.22	Route 3 North	Meredith Village Cemetery
U12-004	0.28	Philbrook Avenue	Road Turnaround
U15-027	0.09	Morrison Avenue	Road Turnaround
U33-015A	1.66	Cattle Landing Road	Parking Lot, Right-of-Way
U33-025	0.41	Cattle Landing Road	Docks, Right-of-Way
U35-010	1.06	Lovejoy Sands Road	Boat Ramp, Docks, Parking Lot

Vacant/Undesignated

Map/Lot	Acres	Location	Use
I07-006	0.27	Bear Island	
R08-033	1.85	Meredith Center Road	Wetland
R17-016	0.76	Chemung Road/Camp Waldron Road	
R22-002	0.03	Upper New Hampton /Tucker Mountain Roads	Road Intersection
R35-003	12.44	Pinnacle Ridge Road	Landlocked
S15-057	1.50	Boynton Road	
S18-055	0.22	Tracy Way	Adjacent to Right-of-Way
S18-056	0.71	Tracy Way	
S22-027	0.74	Tracy Way/Parade Road	Intersection Sight Distance
S23-051	1.73	Foundry Avenue	Narrow strip adjacent to Reservoir Brook
U01-01A	0.40	Route 3/Neal Shore Road	
U01-034	0.09	Neal Shore Road	Adjacent to Railroad Right-of-Way
U04-025	1.04	Waukewan Street	Monkey Pond
U10-027A	0.27	Route 3 North	Water Line Loop
U12-015	174.45	Philbrook Avenue/Jenness Hill Road	
U15-014A	2.36	Pleasant Street	Landlocked, Wetland

Summary Inventory of Valuation - All Properties

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2003

Value of Land Only		
Current Use	$	1,122,421
Residential		502,402,600
Commercial/Industrial		38,596,900
Total Value of Land		542,121,921
Value of Buildings Only		
Residential		484,045,800
Manufactured Housing		7,662,700
Commercial/Industrial		60,265,000
Total Value of Buildings		551,973,500
Public Utilities		
Electric	$	5,169,600
Total Valuation Before Exemptions		1,099,265,021
Exemptions		
Blind		81,900
Elderly		1,470,000
Totally & Permanently Disabled		450,000
Solar/Windpower		17,900
Total Exemptions		2,019,800
Net Taxable Valuation	$	1,097,245,221

2004 Meredith Town Warrant

State of New Hampshire

TO THE INHABITANTS OF MEREDITH QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN AFFAIRS:

You are hereby notified to meet at Flagship Room at the Chase House, 312 Daniel Webster Highway, in said Town on the second Tuesday of March next March 9, 2004, from 7:00 AM until 7:00 PM for the casting of ballots; and at 7:00 PM Wednesday, March 10, 2004, at the Inter-Lakes Junior/Senior High School Gymnasium, 1 Laker Lane, in said Town to act on the following articles:

BALLOT ARTICLES TO BE ACTED UPON:

ARTICLE 1

To bring your ballots for:

One (1) Selectman for three (3) years
One (1) Moderator for two (2) years
One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for three (3) years
One (1) Trustee of Trust Funds for one (1) year
One (1) Supervisor of the Checklist for six (6) years
One (1) Library Trustee for three (3) years
One (1) Library Trustee for two (2) years

ARTICLE 2

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with the re-zoning of several parcels in the Business and Industry District (B/I) as follows?

Tax Map Lot #	Location	Owner	Proposed Zoning District
U-5-1	Railroad Ave & Main St.	Gerrity Co., Inc.	Central Business
U-6-152	Maple St. & Main St .	State of NH	Central Business
U-6-152A	Main Street	R.H. Tinsley trust 1993	Central Business
U-5-1B	Waukewan Street	Town of Meredith	Central Business
U-5-1A	Waukewan Street	Town of Meredith	Central Business
U-3-14	Lower Ladd Hill & Westview Dr.	Gerrity Co., Inc.	Residential

Purpose of the Amendment: To establish zoning that is more compatible with the surrounding land uses and with the village context that is articulated in the 2002 Community Plan.

ARTICLE 3

Are you in favor of adopting Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Zoning Ordinance, having to do with residential density requirement in the Commercial Route 3 South District?

Purpose of the Amendment: In recent years municipal sewer has been extended into the Commercial Route 3 South District, however, the ordinance does not address residential density requirements in circumstances where municipal sewer is available (Class 2 Utilities). The proposed amendment will establish a 20,000 sq. ft. minimum density requirement.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($3,500,000.00) for the purpose of providing funding for construction and equipping of a Community Center Facility, said appropriations to be exclusive of contributions from other sources; (ii) to authorize the issuance of serial bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, (iii) to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings, in accordance with the provisions of said Chapter, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes; and (iv) to authorize the Town Treasurer to determine the method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes and temporary borrowings, as shall be in the best interest of the Town, including the authority to enter into a Tax Regulatory Agreement containing such representations and covenants as are necessary to maintain such notes and temporary borrowings; to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for and accept any contributions in aid of the project and to expend the appropriation in accordance herewith.

(Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)
Recommended by CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to (i) raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000) for the purpose of purchasing a Conservation and Historic Preservation Easement on the 125 acre Longridge Farm, Daniel Webster Highway, John Hodsdon proprietor, and for the purpose of purchasing the Frances A. Eames Trust's 188 acre parcel on Tucker Mountain Road, abutting the Hamlin Recreation and Conservation Area, said appropriations to be exclusive of contributions from other sources; (ii) to authorize the issuance of serial bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act, Chapter 33, (iii) to authorize the Town Treasurer to make temporary borrowings, in accordance with the provisions of said Chapter, in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds or notes; and (iv) to authorize the Town Treasurer to determine the method and manner of sale of such bonds, notes and temporary borrowings, as shall be in the best interest of the Town, including the authority to enter into a Tax Regulatory Agreement containing such representations and covenants as are necessary to maintain such notes and temporary borrowings; to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to apply for and accept any contributions in aid of the project and to expend the appropriation in accordance herewith.

(Passage requires affirmative vote of two-thirds present and voting)
Recommended by CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 6

This petition is presented to the Town of Meredith to consider the adoption of the expansion of the Board of Selectmen from three (3) to five (5) members pursuant to NHRSA 41:8-b. "Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen to five (5) members?"

This is being proposed because of the busy activity required at the local level to deal with the numerous issues that are coming before the Town. A current board of three makes it extremely difficult for Selectmen to participate in many subcommittees. The voter's consideration is appreciated to continue to maintain Meredith as the wonderful place that it is!

(Petitioned by 2% of Registered Voters)
Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (2-1 Vote)

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to establish the Meredith Village Preservation & Enhancement Tax Increment Finance District under the authority of RSA 162-K and adopt the related development plan and tax increment financing plan under which the objectives of the District will be carried out.

(Petitioned by 25 or more Registered Voters)
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to modify the previously adopted provisions of RSA 72:28, the optional veterans' tax credit, to increase the credit from $100.00 to $200.00? This change would take effect on April 1, 2004.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to modify the previously adopted provisions of RSA 72:29-a, II, the surviving spouse exemption for surviving spouses of veterans, to increase the credit from $1,400.00 to $1,500.00? This change would take effect on April 1, 2004.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to modify the Elderly and Disabled Income and Asset Levels to increase as follows: Single to $20,000.00, Married to $25,000.00 and the Asset Limit to $60,000.00? This change would take effect on April 1, 2004.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to modify the previously adopted provisions of RSA 72:35, the tax credit for Disabled Veterans, to increase the credit from $1,400.00 to $1,500.00? This change would take effect on April 1, 2004.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 12

A Veterans Exemption to be placed on the Town of Meredith, NH 2004 Warrant and before voters at the March 2004 Meeting.

Voting veterans in the Town of Meredith, NH who have been honorably discharged from Military Service, do hereby request an increase in the Veterans Exemption from $100.00 (One Hundred Dollars) to $500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars) per year on their year round home located in Meredith, NH.

(Petitioned by 25 or more Registered Voters)
Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 13

An Exemption for the Elderly to be placed on the Town of Meredith 2004 Warrant and before voters at the March 2004 Meeting.

An abatement on the property value, on their year round home located in Meredith, NH of $30,000.00 (Thirty Thousand Dollars), when they reach the ages of 65 years (Sixty-five years) through 69 years (Sixty nine years), that upon reaching the ages of 70 years (Seventy years) through 79 years (Seventy nine years) and abatement be allowed of $60,000.00 (Sixty Thousand Dollars) and when the age of 80 (Eighty years) and beyond, an abatement of $100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) be allowed on their property. The only restrictions to qualify for these abatements are, they the owners of the property must be receiving social security and be a voting resident of the Town of Meredith, NH.

(Petitioned by 25 or more Registered Voters)
Not Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the remaining bond authorizations for the following authorized long-term debt:

Per Town Meeting Vote of:	Purpose	Un-issued Amount
March 9, 1994 – Article #11	Wagon Wheel Trail Sewer Extension	$ 13,250
March 12, 1997 – Article #24	Westbury Road Sewer Main	$ 35,000
March 11, 1998 – Article # 7	Prescott Park Athletic Facilities	$ 500,000
March 15, 2000 – Article # 8	Fire Truck	$ 10,000
March 14, 2001 – Article #10	Landfill Closure	$1,000,000

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to accept a Gift of land, from the Estate of Winston P. Titus, Tax Map/Lot #: U-11-47. The property is located adjacent to Prescott Park and will be transferred to the Town "as is".

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to purchase the property, known as Two Beards located at Tax Map/Lot # U-11-50, 357 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, NH, adjacent to the Prescott Park Facilities, for Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00). There will be no additional tax impact, as Fund Balance will be used for the purchase.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to purchase the property, located Tax Map/Lot # U-7-43, 5 Highland Street, Meredith, NH, adjacent to Town Hall for Three Hundred and Three Thousand Dollars ($303,000.00). There will be no additional tax impact, funding will be from the Municipal Building Expendable Trust Fund established in 1996.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 41:14-a, Acquisition or Sale of Land, Buildings, or Both.

I. If adopted in accordance with RSA 41:14-c, the Selectmen shall have the authority to acquire or sell land, buildings, or both; provided, however, they shall first submit any such proposed acquisition or sale to the planning board and to the conservation commission for review and recommendation by those bodies, where a board or commission or both, exist. After the Selectmen receive the recommendation of the planning board and the conservation commission, where a board or commission or both exist, they shall hold 2 (two) public hearings at least 10 (ten) days but not more than 14 (fourteen) days apart on the proposed acquisition or sale; provided, however, upon the written petition of 50 (fifty) registered voters presented to the Selectmen, prior to the Selectmen's vote, according to the provisions of RSA 39:3, the proposed acquisition or sale shall be inserted as an article in the warrant for the Town Meeting. The Selectmen's vote shall take place no sooner than 10 (ten) days but not more than 14 (fourteen) days after the second public hearing, which is held.

II. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the sale of and the Selectmen shall have no authority to sell:
   a. Town-owned conservation land, which is managed and controlled by the conservation commission under the provisions of RSA 36-A.
   b. Any part of a town forest established under RSA 31:110 and managed under RSA 31:112.
   c. Any real estate that has been given, devised, or bequeathed to the Town for charitable or community purposes.

This authorization shall remain indefinitely until rescinded by a Town Meeting Vote.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Twenty Five Thousand Dollars ($125,000.00) to be added to the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.00) to be added to the Property Assessment Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated with in the operation budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000) to be added to the Cygnet Shores Pump Station Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the CIP Committee and the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) to be added to the Employee Benefits Expendable Trust Fund previously established. The Selectmen are agents to expend.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.00) for the purpose of State Aid Reconstruction Program – 2 to 1 match for improvements to various roads under the State Aid Reconstruction Program, provided that the State of New Hampshire appropriates Forty Thousand Dollars ($40,000.00).

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars ($5,000.00) for assistance to Oakland Cemetery Association for necessary operational expenses for the ensuing year's budget.

Funding is already appropriated within the operating budget.
Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Million Eight Hundred Fifty One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Four Dollars ($9,851,254) for the necessary operational expenses of the Town for the ensuing year's budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen
Meredith, New Hampshire

James F. Hughes	Frank S. Michel	Robert C. Flanders
Chairman	Selectman	Selectman

2004 Proposed Budget

	2003 Estimated	2003 Actual	2004 Estimated
Taxes			
Yield	$ 15,000	$ 12,187	$ 15,000
Boat	43,500	44,346	42,750
Land Use Change Tax	-	-	-
Interest & Penalties on Taxes	85,000	102,226	83,357
Total Taxes	143,500	158,759	141,107
Licenses and Permits			
Motor Vehicle Permits	1,000,000	1,145,055	1,000,000
Building Permits	32,500	31,521	25,000
Other Licenses, Permits, Fees	48,250	56,402	50,750
Total Licenses and Permits	1,080,750	1,232,978	1,075,750
Intergovernmental Revenues			
State			
Highway Block Grant	173,214	173,214	173,214
Railroad Tax	805	1,069	805
Shared Revenue	31,493	76,686	31,493
Rooms & Meals Tax	180,894	180,894	180,894
Water Pollution Grants	28,071	28,136	28,071
Housing & Community Development	-	-	-
State & Forest Land Reimbursement	348	348	348
Other State/Federal Revenue	21,600	50,616	23,800
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	436,425	510,964	438,625
Charges for Services			
Income from Departments	589,795	664,682	586,553
Miscellaneous Revenues			
Sale of Town Property	-	10,237	5,000
Interest on Investments	60,000	62,248	75,000
Insurance & Betterment Assessments	68,000	76,793	75,000
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	128,000	149,277	155,000
Other Financing Sources			
Interfund Transfers			
Special Revenue Fund	221,453	221,453	210,008
Capital Projects Fund	-	-	-
Trust Funds	-	-	303,000
Total Other Financing Sources	221,453	221,453	513,008
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources	2,599,923	2,938,113	2,910,043
Unreserved Fund Balance Used To Reduce Tax Rate	500,000	500,000	1,150,000
Total Revenues, Other Financial Sources and Use of Fund Balance	$ 3,099,923	$ 3,438,113	$ 4,060,043
Special Revenue Funds			
Sewer	342,334	405,534	367,273
Water	522,998	568,266	564,033
Proceeds from Long-term Bonds & Notes:	-	-	4,000,000
Grand Total All Funds	$ 3,965,255	$ 4,411,913	$ 8,991,349

2004 Proposed Budget continued

	2003 Appropriations	2003 Expended	2004 Recommended Appropriations
General Government			
Executive Office	$ 153,052	$ 208,226	$ 197,522
Executive - Municipal Administration	555,610	549,312	577,242
Public Health	204,750	204,612	225,073
Personnel Administration	993,637	966,570	1,188,527
Town Clerk	105,521	101,265	109,424
Finance Department	200,468	193,361	205,198
General Assistance	35,500	38,649	50,500
Assessor's Office	116,038	112,820	119,821
Tax Collector's Office	52,794	51,988	52,744
Planning & Zoning Office	221,118	214,106	253,676
CIP - Capital Project	100,000	100,000	175,000
Non-CIP - Capital Projects	52,750	57,079	55,000
Regional Association	53,906	53,906	64,757
Health Agencies	135,991	135,991	136,765
Public Safety			
Police	1,082,839	1,074,498	1,084,238
Fire	200,324	191,313	216,196
Public Works			
Solid Waste Facility	707,301	706,338	726,119
Building & Grounds	297,707	268,727	173,850
Highway Department	1,603,954	1,599,975	1,652,848
Cemetary	69,136	66,515	79,919
Culture and Recreation			
Parks and Recreation	226,822	214,191	238,405
Library	383,951	365,595	395,638
Debt Service			
Principal - Long-Term Debt	400,240	400,240	412,583
Interest - Long-Term Debt	210,597	210,597	198,177
Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes	10,000	-	10,000
Expendable Trust Funds	825,000	825,000	325,000
Total General Fund	$ 8,999,006	$ 8,910,874	$ 8,924,222
Conservation Commission	16,695	16,263	19,411
Sewer Fund	522,998	521,241	539,790
Water Fund	342,334	341,397	367,831
Total Operating Budget All Funds	$ 9,881,032	$ 9,789,775	$ 9,851,254
Encumbrances	738,585	738,585	1,146,729
Total Operating Budget All Funds	$ 10,619,617	$ 10,528,360	$ 10,997,983
Warrant Articles Not In Operating Budget			
Article # 4 - Community Center	-	-	3,500,000
Article # 5 - Conservation Lands	-	-	500,000
Article #16 - Purchase of Land			500,000
Article # 17 - Purchase of Building/Land	-	-	303,000
Grand Total - Municipal Budget	$ 10,619,617	$ 10,528,360	$ 15,800,983

Municipal Tax Rate Projection

2004 Appropriations - Approved by Board of Selectmen	$9,851,254
Less: 2004 Estimated Revenues - Other than Property Taxes	($4,188,349)
Less: Shared Revenues - Town Portion	($36,312)
Add: Proposed Overlay	$396,998
Add: War Service Credits (Deducted from Property Tax Warrant)	$61,250
Total Net Town Appropriation to be Raised by Taxation	$6,084,841
2004 Estimated Tax Rate (Municipal Portion Only) Compared to 2003 Tax Rate of $5.74 (Municipal Portion Only)	**$5.55**

Warrant Articles with Potential Tax Impact

Article #4: $3,500,000 – Community Center Bond Issue
The purpose of this article is to provide funding for the construction and equipping of a Community Center in Meredith
(Principle & Interest Payments are estimated at $256,000 per year)
(Term of the Loan would be for 20 years)

Tax Impact: $.23 per $1,000 valuation for 2004

Article #5: $500,000 – Conservation Land Bond Issue
The purpose of this article is to purchase a Conservation and Historic Preservation Easement on the 125 acre Longridge Farm, Daniel Webster Highway, John Hodson, proprietor, and for the purpose of purchasing the Frances A. Eames Trust of 188 acres on Tucker Mountain Road.
(Principle & Interest Payments are estimated at $41,000 per year)
(Term of the Loan would be for 10 years)

Tax Impact: $.04 per $1,000 valuation for 2004

Article #24: $5,000 – Oakland Cemetery
The purpose of the article is to assist this local organization with expenses during 2004.

Tax Impact: $.005 per $1,000 valuation for 2004

Meetings of Town Boards and Committees

Monday **Board of Selectmen**
4:00 pm, 1st Monday of the month
7:00 pm, 3rd Monday of the month
Conference Room, Police Station

Tuesday **Library Trustees**
7:30 pm, 2nd Tuesday of the month
Meredith Public Library

Planning Board
7:30 pm, 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month
Conference Room, Police Station

Thursday **Conservation Commission**
7:00 pm, 1st Thursday of the month
Conference Room, Police Station

Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:30 pm, 2nd Thursday of the month
Conference Room, Police Station

Department Office Hours

Municipal Office Building			
Assessor's Office	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Finance Department	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
General Assistance	M,T,W	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	279-4538
Planning Department	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	677-1038
Recreation Department	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Tax Collector	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Clerk	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Town Manager	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	279-4538
Zoning Administration	M-F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	677-1038
Public Library	T,W	10:00 am - 8:00 pm	279-4303
	Th	8:00 am - 8:00 pm	
	F	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	
	Sat	10:00 am - 2:00 pm	
Public Works	M-F	7:30 am - 4:30 pm	279-6352
Includes Buildings & Grounds, Cemetery & Highway Departments			
Solid Waste Facility	Daily	8:00 am - 3:00 pm	279-8480
	Closed Wednesdays & Holidays		
Water & Sewer Department	M-F	7:00 am - 3:30 pm	279-3046

Meredith Directory

Emergency

All Calls	911

Emergency & Health Information

Community Action Program	279-4096
Emergency Management Director	279-8933
Lakes Region General Hospital	524-3211
Meredith Public Health Nursing	279-6611
Hanover Poison Information Center	1-800-562-8236

Legal Services

Belknap County Registry of Deeds	527-5420
Belknap County Superior Court	524-3570
Laconia District Court	524-4128
New Hampshire Legal Assistance	1-800-634-8989

Meredith Municipal Office

Business	279-4538
Fax	279-1042
Public Information (recorded message)	279-5373

Meredith Public Library

Business	279-4303

Police/Fire - Local and State

Belknap County Sheriff's Department	524-3830
Meredith Fire Department non-emergency	279-6061
Meredith Police Department non-emergency	279-4561
State Police (Concord)	1-800-852-3411
State Police (Tamworth)	323-8112

We have the following available services for the general public at the Municipal Office:

Permits to Kindle Fires	Town Clerk Office (Sheila Vachon)
	Main Fire Station (Chuck Palm)
	Meredith Center Store (Barry Ladd)
	Y-Landing Marina (David Hamblet)
Notary Public	Town Clerk Office, $5.00/document

Town Website www.meredithnh.org